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Page 343
                IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
1
                 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
 2
                           EASTERN DIVISION
 3
                          CAUSE NO. 17-md-2804
                             MDL NO. 2804
 4
          IN RE: NATIONAL
          PRESCRIPTION OPIATE
 5
          LITIGATION
 6
          THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:
          TRACK THREE CASES
7
8
                     REMOTE VIDEO DEPOSITION OF
9
                   CARMEN A. CATIZONE, MS, RPh, DPh
10
                              VOLUME II
11
12
13
              The deposition upon oral examination of
     CARMEN A. CATIZONE, MS, RPh, DPh, a witness produced
14
     and sworn before me, Amy Doman, Registered Merit
     Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified
15
     Shorthand Reporter, Notary Public in and for the
     County of Hamilton, State of Indiana, taken on behalf
16
     of the Defendants, in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina,
17
     scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m., on Wednesday,
     June 16, 2021, pursuant to the Federal Rules of
     Civil Procedure.
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2.5
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Page 344
                       APPEARANCES
1
     ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS:
2
3
          MOTLEY RICE LLC
          BY: Michael E. Elsner
4
          Courtney R. Wolf
          James Ledlie
          Kaitlyn Eekhoff
5
          28 Bridgeside Boulevard
          Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464
6
          (843) 216-9000
7
          Melsner@motleyrice.com
          cwolf@motleyrice.com
          jledlie@motleyrice.com
8
          keekhoff@motleyrice.com
9
          SPANGENBERG SHIBLEY & LIBER LLP
10
          Peter H. Weinberger
          1001 Lakeside Avenue East
          Suite 1700
11
          Cleveland, OH 44114
12
          (216) 600 - 0114
          pweinberger@spanglaw.com
13
     ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS CVS PHARMACY, INC.;
     CVS INDIANA, LLC; CVS Rx SERVICES, INC.;
14
     CVS TN DISTRIBUTION, LLC; OHIO CVS STORES, LLC:
15
          ZUCKERMAN SPAEDER LLP
          BY: Graeme W. Bush
16
          100 East Pratt Street
          Suite 2440
17
          Baltimore, MD 21202-1031
18
          (410) 949-1159
          qbush@zuckerman.com
19
          ZUCKERMAN SPAEDER
20
          BY: Jason B. Acton
          1800 M Street Northwest
21
          Suite 1000
          Washington, DC 20036-5807
          (202) 778-1800
22
          jacton@zuckerman.com
2.3
24
25
```

```
Page 345
     Appearances (Continued):
 1
     ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS GIANT EAGLE, INC.;
 2
     HBC SERVICE COMPANY:
 3
          MARCUS & SHAPIRA, LLP
          BY: David Zwier
 4
          Joshua A. Kobrin
          One Oxford Centre, 35th Floor
 5
          Pittsburgh, PA 15219
          (412) 338-5214
 6
          zwier@marcus-shapira.com
 7
          kobrin@marcus-shapira.com
     ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT WALMART, INC.:
 8
          JONES DAY
 9
          BY: Tara A. Fumerton
          77 West Wacker, Suite 3500
          Chicago, IL 60601-1692
10
          (312) 269-4335
11
          tfumerton@jonesday.com
          JONES DAY
12
          BY: John D. Goetz
13
          500 Grant Street, Suite 4500
          Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2514
          (412) 394-7911
14
          jdqoetz@jonesday.com
15
     ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT RITE-AID:
16
          MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
17
          BY: John Gisleson
          1701 Market Street
18
          Philadelphia, PA 19103-2921
           (215) 963-5328
          john.qisleson@morqanlewis.com
19
20
     ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS WALGREENS BOOTS ALLIANCE,
     INC.; WALGREEN CO.; AND WALGREEN EASTERN CO., INC.:
21
          BARTLIT BECK LLP
22
          BY: Brian C. Swanson
          1801 Wewatta Street
          Suite 1200
23
          Denver, CO 80202
24
          (303) 592-3197
          brian.swanson@bartlitbeck.com
25
```

```
Page 346
    Appearances (Continued):
1
          LEVIN PAPANTONIO RAFFERTY
2
          BY: Laura Dunning
 3
          Page Poerschke
          316 South Baylen St.
 4
          Pensacola, FL 32502
          (205) 396-5014
 5
          ldunning@levinlaw.com
          ppoerschke@levinlaw.com
 6
    VIDEOGRAPHER:
          Robert Miller
 7
    ALSO PRESENT:
8
          Jonathan Jaffe
 9
          David R. Cohen
10
          Special Master
          DAVID R. COHEN CO. LPA
11
          24400 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 300
          Cleveland, Ohio 44122
12
          (216) 831-0001
          david@specialmaster.law
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
2.1
22
23
2.4
25
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	Page 34	7
1	INDEX OF EXAM	
2		Page
3	CROSS-EXAMINATION (Continued)	344
	Questions by Brian C. Swanson	
4		
	CROSS-EXAMINATION	417
5	Questions by John Gisleson	
6	CROSS-EXAMINATION	463
	Questions by Joshua Kobrin	
7		
	REDIRECT EXAMINATION	509
8	Questions by Tara Fumerton	
9	CROSS-EXAMINATION	517
	Questions by Michael Elsner	
LΟ		
	RECROSS-EXAMINATION	522
L1	Questions by Joshua Kobrin	
L2		
L3	INDEX OF EXHIBITS	
L4	Deposition Exhibits:	Page
L5	Exhibit 16 - August 014 Model State 3	359
	Pharmacy Act and Model Rules	
L6	of the National Association	
	of Boards of Pharmacy	
L7		
	Exhibit 17 - May 2011 newsletter from the 3	369
L 8	Ohio state board of pharmacy	
L 9	Exhibit 18 - Email dated 3/10/2015 3	385
2 0		
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23		
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Page 348 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. We're going 1 2 on the record at 8:09 a.m. Eastern time on June 16th, 2021. This is Media Unit Number 1, 3 Volume 2 of the video-recorded deposition of Carmen 4 Catizone taken in the matter of In Re: National 5 Prescription Opiate Litigation from the 6 7 U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, Case Number 17-md-2804. 8 This deposition is being held remotely. My 9 10 name is Kraig Hildahl from the firm Veritext Legal 11 Solutions, and I'm the videographer. The court 12 reporter today is Amy Doman, also with Veritext. 13 Will counsel please identify themselves for the record. 14 15 MR. SWANSON: We have all counsel on the 16 transcript, Amy. Can we just proceed? Is that 17 okay? 18 THE REPORTER: Yes, sir. Thank you. CROSS-EXAMINATION (continued) 19 20 QUESTIONS BY BRIAN C. SWANSON: Good morning, Mr. Catizone. 2.1 Q Good morning, Mr. Swanson. 22 Α 23 Q How are you this morning, sir? I'm fine, thank you. 24 Α 25 Terrific. Can you pull out and put in front of you

Page 349 Exhibit 2, which is your supplemental report in 1 2 this case? Yes, sir. 3 A Do you have that in front of you now? 4 5 Α Yes, sir. Great. Other than that report, do you have any 6 7 other notes, documents, or aids, either paper or electronic with you today? Yes, sir. 9 A 10 What else do you have? Q I have all of the exhibits from yesterday on the 11 12 desk. I have a blank pad of paper for notes, and I 13 have a pen and that's it, sir. Okay. So you don't have any electronic media or 14 Q 15 anything with notes or guides for you? 16 No, sir. A 17 Okay. Thank you for confirming that. Before we launched, you also have the box of 18 possible exhibits that my firm sent over to you? 19 20 Let me check, please. Α Sure. 2.1 Q Yes, sir. 22 Α 23 Q Okay. Now I can assure you that we're not going to 24 go through all of those documents, so you don't 25 have to worry about that, but I'll try to, as we

Page 350 qo, identify the ones that we might need so you can 1 2 put those in front of you if you would like to. Okay? 3 Α Yes, sir. 4 5 Q Great. Can you please open up your expert report, Exhibit 2, to page 10. 6 7 I'm there, sir. Α Page 10, if you just flip back one page, this is 8 Q 9 the section of your report regarding what you call 10 "Corporate Oversight." Do you see that? 11 12 Yes, sir. A 13 On page 10 in the middle paragraph, the one that 0 14 begins "Chain Pharmacies." Can you go to that 15 paragraph? 16 Yes, sir. A 17 About midway through, you write: "Pharmacies must 18 maintain systems and methods to store and retain prescription dispensing data and records." 19 20 Do you see that sentence? Yes. 2.1 A 22 And then the final sentence of that paragraph, it continues: "Pharmacies must utilize their 23 information to identify patterns of diversion to 24 25 audit the work of their pharmacists, to train its

Page 351 pharmacy personnel, investigate suspicious 1 2 prescribers, patients, and pharmacists, and to prevent diversion of controlled substances." 3 Did you write that, sir? 4 5 A Yes, sir. Is it your opinion that every licensed pharmacy in 6 7 Ohio is required to use its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion? Yes, sir. 9 Α 10 Is it your opinion that every licensed pharmacy in Q 11 Ohio is required to use its dispensing data to 12 audit the dispensing of the pharmacists? 13 Α Yes, sir. Is it your opinion that every licensed pharmacy in 14 15 Ohio is required to use its dispensing data to 16 investigate suspicious prescribers, patients, and 17 pharmacists? 18 Α Yes, sir. If I understand your report and the content of your 19 20 report, to you that means that the pharmacies must create systems that use dispensing data to alert 2.1 22 pharmacists at the store level of certain red flags 23 that you have created when those red flags are triggered; is that accurate? 24 25 Yes, sir. Α

Page 352 If you flip back to page 9, again, in the corporate 1 2. oversight, you write that: "These responsibilities" -- that we've just been 3 discussing -- "are reflected in the Controlled 4 Substances Act and relevant Ohio state law." 5 Is that your opinion? 6 7 Yes, sir. Α Now, when you say that those -- what you call Q responsibilities are reflected in the Controlled 9 10 Substances Act and relevant in Ohio state law, you 11 don't provide any citation to what provisions of 12 the CSA or Ohio state law you are referring to; is 13 that right? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 A Not in this section, sir. 16 BY MR. SWANSON: 17 So can you tell me what provision of the Controlled 18 Substances Act states the pharmacy must use its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion 19 20 in the way that you have opined in your report? There are two or three sections within the CSA that 2.1 A I cannot cite specifically, but I can explain. 22 If there's a copy you could provide or if I 23 have a copy of the CSA, I could point out those 24 25 specific provisions. But the sections are, one,

Page 353 that says that a pharmacy must maintain appropriate 1 records and controls for controlled substances. 2. That is the part that says that they must have 3 dispensing records, and the dispensing data must be 4 appropriate for the distribution and control of 5 controlled substances. 6 7 And then the second section talks about being able to identify diversion, abuse, and a fraud. So 8 9 as a pharmacist and as a regulator for 35 years, 10 those sections, to me, and to pharmacists, 11 represent my opinion and the basis for my opinions. Can you help me by identifying by number the 12 13 provision that you are relying upon? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 A I don't have it in front of me, but it would be 16 part of 1306.04, .06, those two sections of the 17 provisions of the Controlled Substances Act. BY MR. SWANSON: 18 So you are relying on 1306.04, which is the 19 20 "Corresponding Responsibility" section? Correct. 2.1 A 22 That's one of the sections you're relying on? One of the sections, sir. 23 A Okay. And if you turn to page 25, we looked at 24 25 that yesterday. You've quoted that provision in

Page 354 its entirety. So why don't you turn to 25. 1 2 I'm there. Okay. And you can see where you've quoted 1306.04. 3 Can you show me where in 1306.04 it states 4 5 that a pharmacy must use its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, sir, as I explained yesterday, the 8 A application of 1306.04 and 1306.06 and the 9 10 interpretation based upon my experience in this area and regulation, is where the basis for my 11 12 opinion comes from. 13 BY MR. SWANSON: All right. I just want to make sure I am clear, 14 15 then, on your testimony. When you say that the 16 pharmacist -- the pharmacy's obligation to use 17 dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion is required by the Controlled Substances Act, the 18 provisions that you rely upon are 1306.04 and 19 20 1306.06; is that correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 22 In part, sir. It's the entire CSA. 23 BY MR. SWANSON: 24 Okay. Well, I want to know -- and I'm asking if 25 you can identify anywhere in the CSA where it

Page 355 states that a pharmacy has an obligation to use its 1 2 dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion. Is there anywhere in the CSA that specifically 3 requires that obligation? 4 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 5 Specifically, the CSA identifies pharmacy as a 6 Α 7 practitioner, as the DEA has. And therefore, the same responsibilities that a pharmacist has is on a pharmacy. And if I can, if I can point you down to 10 the next paragraph and the testimony of Demetra 11 Ashley from the DEA who said that the obligation to 12 identify any red flags relating to a 13 controlled-substance prescription to resolve them before filling a prescription, and to document any 14 15 resolution of red flags is a well-recognized responsibility of the pharmacist in the 16 17 professional practice of pharmacy. And since the DEA has interpreted practitioner 18 to mean pharmacy, corporation, and pharmacist, that 19 20 also is the basis of my opinion in this report. BY MR. SWANSON: 2.1 22 Okay. But right now, I want you to stick with me, 23 okay? I'm asking you about the Controlled Substances Act and any specific provisions. 24

not asking you about what another witness might

25

have said. And I can go -- we can go there if you want to.

But I first want to get your testimony about what specific provisions you would rely on when you are testifying in court and saying that the defendants violated because they didn't have -- if they didn't have the systems that you claim they should have had. Do you understand the question I'm asking you?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

I do, sir, but I don't think you're understanding my answer. So my answer is that the Controlled Substance Act in its entirety forms the basis and that each individual provision within there was used to substantiate my position. I've explained to you that the provision that says the appropriate dispensing and recordkeeping, although it may not specifically say what they're to do to the utmost detail, that is the basis for my opinion and those are the provisions that I've used.

And that's the answer I've been giving you several times and the same answer I will give repeatedly if you continue to ask that question.

BY MR. SWANSON:

2.

2.1

Α

Q Let me see if we can at least get agreement on

Page 357 Sitting here today in response to my 1 2. questions to what provisions of the CSA, in your view, require a pharmacy to use dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion, the two provisions 4 5 that you've provided to me sitting here today are 1306.04 and 1306.06; is that true? 6 7 No, sir. Α MR. ELSNER: Objection, asked and answered. You asked me that question, I've answered a couple 9 Α 10 times saying that those are some of the provisions. My answer is all of the CSA, all provisions, form 11 12 the basis for that responsibility. 13 BY MR. SWANSON: Okay. So 1306.07, that's one? 14 15 Α I've said all of the provisions of the CSA taken in 16 total are the basis for my opinions, sir. 17 Any state law that you rely on for your opinion 18 that a pharmacy is required to use its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion? 19 20 Again, the state law mimics federal law and Α pharmacists in states are responsible to comply 2.1 22 with federal law. So my answer would be the same. 23 The CSA in its entirety is the basis for 24 pharmacists at the state level to also comply with 25 that responsibility in my opinion.

Q So it's your opinion that if a pharmacy -- and go outside of Ohio. Any pharmacy in the United States that isn't using its dispensing data to provide the pharmacists at the counter with information to identify patterns of diversion, that pharmacy is in violation of the Controlled Substances Act? Is that your testimony?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A It's my opinion that that pharmacy, then, is not instituting, implementing, and enforcing appropriate controls for the distribution and dispensing of controlled substances. So my answer is yes.

BY MR. SWANSON:

2.

2.1

- And can you identify for me a pharmacy anywhere in the country that uses its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion that are provided to the pharmacists prior to dispensing a medication?

  MR. ELSNER: Objection.
- A I can't specifically identify, but I can identify that the defendants in this case did not do so, and therefore, didn't meet the standard of care.

BY MR. SWANSON:

Q And I understand that's your opinion. But my question was a bit broader.

Can you identify a pharmacy anywhere in the country that uses dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion that are then provided to pharmacists prior to dispensing medication. I'm not limiting it. Anywhere in the country, can you point to a pharmacy?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A I can't point to one today, but I would be glad to do the research and find a pharmacy for you. I'm sure they exist out there.

## BY MR. SWANSON:

2.1

- Q Well, I mean, you worked for the NABP for 30 years.

  I imagine you must have interacted with pharmacies
  quite a lot in that position, didn't you, sir?
- A Yes, I did.
- Q And you worked at a pharmacy, you said, all the way through 2004, you were working as a pharmacist, right?
- A Yes, sir.
  - And given all of that experience and all of those interactions with pharmacies all over the country, and boards of pharmacy all over the country, sitting here today you can't identify a single pharmacy anywhere in the country that uses dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion

		Page 360
1		provided to pharmacists prior to dispensing a
2		medication, true?
3		MR. ELSNER: Objection.
4	A	No, sir. Thanks to you refreshing my memory, I can
5		say for certain that the pharmacy I worked at in
6		Albertsons chain pharmacy uses dispensing data and
7		provides that dispensing data prior to the
8		pharmacist dispensing prescriptions.
9	ВУ	MR. SWANSON:
10	Q	How does their system work?
11	A	I don't know the mechanics behind it, sir. I know
12		that they provide dispensing data to the
13		pharmacists as part of the process before
14		dispensing a prescription.
15	Q	When is the last time you saw the Albertsons'
16		dispensing data or dispensing system?
17	А	I reviewed their error reporting and dispensing
18		system about three weeks ago, sir.
19	Q	Do you do consulting for Albertsons?
20	А	No, sir, I don't.
21	Q	So what was why were you reviewing their error
22		reporting and dispensing system three weeks ago?
23		MR. ELSNER: Objection.
24	A	It was for another client, sir.
25	ВУ	MR. SWANSON:

Q And what was -- what was the reason that you were reviewing their reporting and dispensing system?

2.

2.1

- A The client that I am working with has a system that will centralize the distribution management of the COVID vaccine for pharmacies and integrate that into their dispensing system, as well as provide alerts to patients. As so as part of that process, we reviewed their dispensing process to determine what alerts the pharmacist receives, and at what point the pharmacists would be able to utilize this system and an error reporting system as part of the dispensing process.
- Q And is it your testimony that this system at
  Albertsons that you say you looked at recently,
  will alert a pharmacist of patterns of diversion?

  MR. ELSNER: Objection.
- A No, sir, your question to me was, was I aware of any pharmacy in the United States that used dispensing data to alert pharmacists or to provide pharmacists with information about diversion.

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A And Albertsons provides that information. I'm not sure what the alert system is for that. But I know dispensing data is one of the tools and information provided to pharmacists as they dispense

Page 362 1 prescriptions. 2 BY MR. SWANSON: But does this Albertsons' system that you now say 3 0 provides this information, does it alert the 4 5 pharmacist at the counter of a potential pattern of diversion like you say is required under the CSA? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Two points, sir, if I can. One, I did not say it 8 A was required at the counter. I said they had to 9 10 have a system that uses dispensing data that provides information to the pharmacists prior to 11 12 dispensing the prescription. 13 Second, I do not know Albertsons' system enough to comment on that. So I would have to say 14 15 I don't know about that. BY MR. SWANSON: 16 17 We talked a bit yesterday when you were with the NABP, one of the things that the NABP did is you 18 would publish -- you would write and then publish 19 20 model rules and model acts that you would provide to the state. 2.1 22 Do you recall that? 23 Α Yes, sir. If you can open up please the folder that's marked 24 25 WAG19-1-9. I'm going to try to introduce this as

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Page 363
 1
           an exhibit online too.
           You mean WAG 19, not WAG 19-1-9, not 1919, just
 2
           WAG 19, right?
 3
           Yes, sir, one, nine.
      Q
 5
                And can I ask the court reporter what exhibit
            I should mark this as.
 6
 7
                THE REPORTER: This will be 16.
                (Exhibit 16 was marked for identification.)
 8
            I have it open, sir.
        BY MR. SWANSON:
10
           And I'm going to -- I'll publish it to or at least
11
            introduce it so everybody can have it. Okay.
12
13
                Exhibit 16 is a document, an "August 014 Model
           State Pharmacy Act and Model Rules of the National
14
15
           Association of Boards of Pharmacy"?
                Is that what you have in front of you?
16
17
           Yes, sir.
      A
18
      Q
           Terrific. We're on the same page, then.
                So I just read the title of Exhibit 16. Are
19
20
           these -- is this an example of the model rules and
2.1
           regulations that the NABP would publish when you
           were there?
22
23
      A
           Yes, sir.
           You're familiar with this document, right?
24
      0
25
           Yes, sir.
      Α
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Page 364 Who drafts this document? Is it sort of a team 1 2 effort at NABP? Yes, sir. 3 A What's your contribution or what was your 4 contribution to the model act in 2014? 5 6 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 7 I provide the final staff review before it's presented to the board of directors for ultimate 9 approval. 10 BY MR. SWANSON: Okay. So when this -- when the Model State 11 12 Pharmacy Act goes out and gets published, it has 13 your sign-off, right? Yes, sir. A 14 15 I think you said yesterday that the model act Q 16 describes what you'd call best practices for state boards to try to implement; is that right? 17 18 Α Yes, to some degree, sir. Now, if you look at the table of contents on the 19 20 third or fourth page, you can see there's a section for "Model Rules for the Practice of Pharmacy." 2.1 22 A Yes, sir. 23 0 And I can -- I can publish this if that makes it easier for everybody. At least I think I can. 24 25 MR. SWANSON: How did I do, is everybody

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Page 365
           seeing the Exhibit 16?
 1
 2
               MR. ELSNER: Yes.
               MR. SWANSON: Okay. Thank you.
 3
        BY MR. SWANSON:
 4
           So Mr. Catizone, you can see if you scroll down
 5
      Q
           three or four pages, there's a section there Model
 6
 7
           Rules for the Practice of Pharmacy. Do you see
           that?
 8
 9
      A
           Yes, sir.
10
           And one of the sections you can see in there is
      Q
           automated pharmacy systems; is that right?
11
12
           I can't see it on the screen, but I believe it's
      A
13
           there, sir.
           All right. I can --
14
      Q
               MR. ELSNER: Carmen, take the time if you
15
16
           can't see it on the screen to refer to --
        BY MR. SWANSON:
17
           Or you can look at whichever one is easier for you,
18
           sir. I just have it up so everyone can see it.
19
20
               MS. FUMERTON: Brian, it's a little small if
           you can make it bigger.
2.1
               MR. SWANSON: I sure can. Thanks.
22
               MR. ELSNER: Mr. Catizone, it's on the
23
24
           page that ends 9630.
25
               THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
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Page 366 BY MR. SWANSON: 1 2. Are you there? Yes, sir. A Okay. And again, and what are automated pharmacy 4 5 systems? They're a variety of systems. They can be the 6 Α 7 dispensing process, they can be the pill-counting machines, it's technology utilized within the 9 pharmacies. 10 And is it the automated pharmacy system that, in Q 11 your view, would be the system that should alert a 12 pharmacist to potential patterns of diversion? 13 Α It would be one of the systems, sir. And then if you go down -- or if you flip your copy 14 15 in to page 91, you'll see the section on automated 16 pharmacy systems. And you'll get there faster than 17 I will, because there's really no good way to do this on the screen. But if you turn to page 91? 18 Yes, sir. 19 Α 20 Okay. Page 91 you can see is Section 8 and it's on Q "Automated Pharmacy Systems," right? 2.1 Yes, sir. 22 Α 23 0 Now, is there anywhere in the section that you and your team put out on automated pharmacy systems 24 25 that requires a pharmacy to implement a system

Page 367 where it uses its dispensing data to identify 1 2 patterns of diversion? Can you point me anywhere in the section that you signed off on that says 3 that that's a requirement? 4 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. A 6 7 BY MR. SWANSON: Okay. Where? Q 9 Α Can I explain and then point to the section at the 10 same time, sir? You can answer it however you feel appropriate. 11 12 Thank you. Α 13 So the Model State Pharmacy Practice Act is reflective of what occurs at the state level. And 14 15 perhaps just as an explanation, what is contained in the act is very relevant and forms the basis of 16 17 the model rules. And the model rules then reflect the 18 interpretation and implementation of the act. 19 20 the act it talks about the practice of pharmacy. It talks about drug utilization review, and it 2.1 talks about prospective drug utilization review. 22 23 In this particular section on page 92 on Number 5 at the bottom, it says: "Records and/or electronic 24 25 data kept by automated pharmacy systems shall meet

the following requirements. All events involving the contents of the automated pharmacy system must be recorded electronically."

So taking the practice act, which requires the pharmacist to appropriately dispense prescriptions, resolve red flags and document that, this system then must have some way of recording that electronically, whether it's part of the alerts for the pharmacist, or whether there are other tools that are available to the pharmacist.

That's the interpretation of NABP and the guidance to the states to -- in direct response to your question.

Okay. I thought I heard you talking about documentation.

My question was focused on this requirement where you say that every pharmacy in the country is required to have a -- to use its dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion at the pharmacy counter. And I'm wondering if that requirement, that you now say is a requirement, is included anywhere in the model rules that you signed off on?

MR. ELSNER: Objection, asked and answered.

And my answer was, yes, sir. The model rules must

be implemented in accordance with the practice act

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as with state law. There are no model rules that exist without an existing state law. The practice act forms the basis for that requirement of the dispensing data being utilized as part of the appropriate controls for dispensing controlled substances. The model rules then further identify in terms of technology and operations, what those events are and the rules say all events, which would include utilizing dispensing data to ensure the appropriate dispensing drug utilization review and distribution of prescriptions.

## BY MR. SWANSON:

2.1

I'm not asking -- sir, I'm not asking about drug utilization review. I'm asking about the system that you talk about in your report, right? Is a system where you say a pharmacy has to use dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion, and then notify the pharmacist at the store level of a possible red flag.

That's the system that you claim every defendant was required to implement. Do I have that right?

MR. ELSNER: Objection; asked and answered.

A Yes, sir.

BY MR. SWANSON:

And so my question is, where in the model act that you signed off on, is that express requirement, you now claim is a requirement, where is it included in the model act? That's my question.

MR. ELSNER: Objection. Objection; asked and answered, several times.

If I can explain again, sir, you cannot separate in the practice of pharmacy, drug utilization review and appropriate dispensing and the utilization of dispensing data to identify patterns of diversion or red flags. They are all one end product that must be used together.

The practice act requires DUR, the practice act requires that the pharmacist must comply with all federal and state laws, and the practice act says there must be appropriate dispensing of those products. And that is, in its entirely, what forms the basis then for any system to utilize dispensing data so the pharmacist is aware of that when they are conducting DUR and other checks to make sure that the patient receives the right medication and the prescription is for a legitimate medical purpose.

BY MR. SWANSON:

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Q When you were with the NABP, did you have any

Page 371 knowledge or awareness of the dispensing systems 1 2. that you were utilized by the retail chain pharmacies in this case? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 From the view of a state board of pharmacy or NABP, 5 A but not as a practicing pharmacy. In those 6 7 systems, I had experience, again, within the Osco/Albertsons system as a system as a pharmacist. BY MR. SWANSON: 9 10 Got it. I guess my question was, though, by Q virtual of your role at the NABP, did you ever go 11 12 out to different pharmacies and look at their systems and comment on them or advise? 13 No, sir. 14 Α 15 Okay. I'm going to move on to "Corresponding Q Responsibility." You provided opinions in this 16 17 case regarding pharmacists corresponding responsibility and we talked a bit about --18 Mr. Swanson? Excuse me. Are you -- am I done with 19 20 the model act? Do I need this anymore? Yes, you can set that aside for now. 2.1 Q 22 Α Thank you, sir. 23 Q Thank you. Sorry for the interruption. 24 Α 25 That's all right. Q

Page 372 You provided opinions in this case and have 1 2 written in your report we talked a bit about the corresponding responsibility in Section 1306.04, 3 right? 4 5 A Yes, sir. One of the things we talked about yesterday was 6 7 that the state boards of pharmacy, sometimes they will put out newsletters to provide guidance and 8 9 education to the pharmacists who practice in their 10 state, right? 11 A Yes, sir. And Ohio is one of the states that did that, right? 12 13 Α Yes, sir. They would periodically write about topics that 14 15 were important to pharmacists who were dispensing medications, including opioids, right? 16 17 Yes, sir. Α 18 Q Sometimes they would write about issues like laws 19 and regulations that dictate the practice of 20 pharmacy, true? Yes, sir. 2.1 A And we talked yesterday, while you were at the 22 23 NABP, you were an editor of portions of those 24 letters but not the entire letter, right? 25 Yes, sir. Α

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Page 373
           Your role was to act as the editor of NABP content
 1
 2
           and for state-specific content that was the
           responsibility of whoever the lead person was for
 3
           the state board of pharmacy, right?
 4
 5
      Α
           Yes, sir.
           But it was important that those newsletters
 6
 7
           contained accurate information regarding the
           practice of pharmacy, right?
 8
 9
      Α
           The responsibility for the accuracy rested with the
10
           state, sir.
           Or with you, if it was your content, right?
11
           Yes, sir.
12
      Α
13
           Or the NABP's content, I should say?
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           Yes, sir.
14
      A
15
           If you can open up the envelope that's marked
      Q
16
           WAG 08?
17
      Α
           Yes, sir.
18
                MR. ELSNER: I'm going to get this out to
19
            everybody else. We're now on 17.
20
                (Exhibit 17 was marked for identification.)
                MR. ELSNER: Just for time sake, if it's okay
2.1
22
           with everybody, I'm not going to put it up on the
            screen, but I have distributed it.
23
        BY MR. SWANSON:
24
25
           Okay. The document you have in front of you is a
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		Page 374
1		May 2011 newsletter from the Ohio state board of
2		pharmacy, correct?
3	A	Yes, sir.
4	Q	And if you look at the second page, you can see
5		that in the bottom right, you're identified as the
6		national news editor and executive editor, right?
7	А	Yes, sir.
8	Q	Looking at the content of Exhibit 17, it's a
9		relatively short newsletter, right?
10	A	I don't know if this is the entire newsletter, sir.
11		So I can't
12	Q	It might just be a portion?
13	A	Yeah. The middle portion is missing and I don't
14		know if this is the first or second page of the
15		Ohio, so I can't comment if it's the short or not.
16		MR. ELSNER: I'm going to object to the
17		completeness of the document. But you can
18		continue.
19		MR. SWANSON: Okay. Thanks.
20	ВУ	MR. SWANSON:
21	Q	If you look at the first page, there's a section
22		that reads: "Corresponding responsibility is
23		needed more than ever." Right?
24	A	Yes, sir.
25	Q	And this section continues to the second page of

Page 375 the document. So you at least have a complete 1 2. iteration of the section on the corresponding responsibility. Do you agree with that? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I think it -- I think 4 what it shows is that the document was originally 5 6 four pages and you're showing us the first page and 7 the fourth page. MR. SWANSON: Right. But Mr. Elsner, what I 8 just said is, it's a complete iteration of that 9 10 section and I asked if he agreed with that. So I appreciate the objection. But I'm just asking --11 12 (Simultaneous conversation.) 13 MR. ELSNER: I just want the record to be clear. Go ahead. You can answer. 14 15 This is not the format that I've seen the 16 newsletter in. And I don't know for sure if it's 17 complete. It appears to be complete, but I can't say for certain that it is. 18 BY MR. SWANSON: 19 20 It begins: "In last May's newsletter, the board mentioned that it is having a tremendous 2.1 22 problem in Ohio with so-called pain clinics that are doing nothing but providing large amounts of 23 controlled substances, particularly oxycodone and 24 25 hydrocodone to people who have no legitimate

Page 376 medical need for them." 1 2 Do you see that? Yes, sir. 3 A And do you recall that was a problem in Ohio back 4 in 2011? 5 I recall it was a problem, yes, sir. 6 Α 7 If you turn to the next page, then, it continues on, that second complete sentence on page 2: 9 "Since most of the pharmacists in Ohio have taken 10 their corresponding responsibility requirements seriously, the patients, quote/unquote, of these 11 12 operations are having more and more problems 13 finding a place to get the prescriptions filled. The board has had calls from pharmacies as far away 14 15 as Virginia and South Carolina asking about the 16 legitimacy of these prescriptions." 17 Did I read that correctly? 18 A Yes, sir. And do you recall that, at the time, that the Ohio 19 20 Board of Pharmacy was of the view that its pharmacists were practicing their corresponding 2.1 responsibility and that was leading patients to 22 23 leave the state to try to get their prescriptions filled? 24 25 Objection. MR. ELSNER:

Page 377 1 I don't recall that, sir. 2 BY MR. SWANSON: But you agree that that was the view of the state 3 Q board of pharmacy expressed in Exhibit 17, true? 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. No, sir, I would ask for your indulgence to allow 6 A me to read the entire article, rather than just 7 comment on individual sections, if there's time to 8 do that, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 10 Well, there's probably not time to do that so --11 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 12 MR. SWANSON: I will ask you to comment. 13 BY MR. ELSNER: 14 15 I understand your request. I will just ask if you 16 are able to comment on some of the provisions, I'm 17 going to ask you about that. How about that? Can I clarify and explain that, sir? 18 Α Sure. 19 20 Yesterday it was represented to me that the Α definition of doctor shopping by the Ohio Board of 2.1 Pharmacy was five or more prescribers. When I 22 23 actually researched that last night in the Ohio practice act rules, it was only more than one 24 25 prescriber. So I don't want to misrepresent or

Page 378 take something as an assumption that turns out not 1 2 to be correct today. So I will comment to the best of my ability, 3 but I cannot make assumptions or take 5 misrepresented information again to give the wrong answer to you. 6 7 MR. SWANSON: Okay. Well, I'll move to strike that response. And I understand -- I understand 8 9 that you can only comment to the extent you are 10 able when I ask you these questions. BY MR. SWANSON: 11 12 Here's the question I --13 MR. ELSNER: Wait. BY MR. SWANSON: 14 15 -- want to ask you. 16 MR. ELSNER: But Mr. Catizone, please take the 17 time that you need to put whatever sentence he asks you about in the appropriate context, okay? 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. 19 20 MR. SWANSON: I agree with that. I agree with t.hat.. 2.1 BY MR. SWANSON: 22 23 I want to ask you in the second column on the second page. The second complete sentence begins 24 25 with the word "please."

Page 379 Do you see that? 1 2 Α No, sir, I apologize. I don't see that. You don't need to apologize. 3 Q Second column, second sentence. 4 Yes, sir. I found that. 5 Α Okay. It says: "Please note that the pharmacist 6 7 is the one held accountable for making that independent judgment, not the employer, supervisor, 8 or fellow employee." 9 10 Do you see that? 11 A Yes, sir. 12 Do you recall that it was the Ohio state board of 13 pharmacy's view that the corresponding responsibility rested with the pharmacist; the 14 15 pharmacist was the one that was accountable for 16 exercising that judgment, and not the employer, 17 supervisor, or fellow employee? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I don't recall that, sir. 19 20 BY MR. SWANSON: Do you at least agree with me that the state board 2.1 22 of pharmacy is telling the pharmacists that it sends out this newsletter to, that it's the 23 pharmacist who has the corresponding 24 25 responsibility, and not the employer, supervisor,

Page 380 or fellow employee? 1 2 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Based on the context of the newsletter and other 3 A information I know about the Ohio Board of 4 5 Pharmacy, the newsletter is directed to pharmacists, practicing pharmacists, and that's why 6 7 the content may have referred to pharmacists. I know that the Ohio Board of Pharmacy at the time 8 9 that I was at NABP took action forth -- against 10 pharmacies for violating or not complying with 11 their corresponding responsibility. So I think 12 this is part of the answer or part of the position 13 of the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. MR. ELSNER: I'm just going to lodge an 14 15 objection. You haven't established that Mr. Catizone was involved in the writing of any of 16 17 this. In fact, I think his testimony was that he --18 19 MR. SWANSON: Mike, let's stop the speaking 20 objections and the coaching of the witness. Your objection is on the record and it's noted. 2.1 22 MR. ELSNER: It's important context, not for 23 the witness. The witness already testified that 24 his section was in pages 2 and 3. I want the 25 record to be clear because you seem to indicate --

Page 381 seem to suggest that he actually wrote this, and 1 2. it's not clear to me that he wrote it or even saw it. And I think you have to lay that foundation. 3 MR. SWANSON: There's been zero suggestion 4 that he wrote this, Mike. 5 MR. ELSNER: I disagree. The implication was 6 7 you started with his name on the last page of the document. So please continue. But I'm going to 8 9 continue to object to the use of this document if 10 you don't lay the proper foundation. You can 11 continue. 12 BY MR. SWANSON: 13 All right. So again, my only question on this is, 0 you said this is a document that went out to 14 15 pharmacists, correct? 16 Yes, sir. A 17 And the intent was to educate pharmacists on laws Q and regulations among other things, correct? 18 19 Α Yes, sir. 20 And what the Ohio state board of pharmacy told the Q pharmacists that it sent this letter to is that 2.1 both Ohio laws and rules and federal laws and 22 23 regulations place a corresponding responsibility on 24 the pharmacist to make a judgment and hold the 25 pharmacist accountable for that judgment, right?

Page 382 I can only comment to say that's what the 1 2 newsletter says. I can't comment beyond that, sir. Fair enough. You can set that one aside. 3 0 If you look at page 78 of your report, I'm 4 going to pivot to a new topic here, briefly. 5 Are you on page 78? 6 7 Yes, sir. Α Page 78 of your report, you fault Walgreens -- and Q I'll just read: "Even so, as late as 2017, 9 10 Walgreens refused to allow 'blanketly' refusing to fill prescriptions from a prescriber as long as the 11 12 prescriber had an active DEA number." 13 Do you see that? Yes, sir. 14 A 15 You say: "Instead, it, Walgreens insisted Q 16 pharmacists evaluate each prescription on a 17 'case-by-case basis." Right? Yes, sir. 18 Α And in your view, that was a fault of Walgreens. 19 20 Walgreens was doing wrong by refusing to implement blanket refusals to fill, right? 2.1 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 22 23 A Yes, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 24 25 And does that opinion apply to other pharmacies as

Page 383 well, that other pharmacies also should have had 1 2 blanket refusal to fill policies? Based upon the information, if the physician was 3 A involved in writing and prescribing prescriptions 4 for nonlegitimate purposes and the pharmacist 5 suspected diversion. And then the diversion could 6 or could not be confirmed, the answer would be yes, 7 sir. 8 Now, Walgreens policy was to ask their pharmacists 9 10 to exercise their own independent judgment on a 11 case-by-case basis, right? Yes, sir. 12 Α 13 But it's your opinion that a pharmacy should mandate that its pharmacists refuse to fill 14 15 prescriptions written by some doctors, even though 16 those doctors still have an active DEA number, 17 right? Based upon information that the pharmacist would 18 Α have about that prescriber, yes, sir. 19 20 Do blanket refusal to fill policies like the one Q you advocate, do they interfere with the 2.1 pharmacist's independent professional judgment? 22 23 A No, sir. When I asked you yesterday what the independent 24 25 professional judgment meant, you said that:

Page 384 pharmacist is supposed to make an objective 1 2. decision and not be influenced by any other factors such as corporate metrics or corporate 3 requirements." 4 5 Do you remember giving that testimony? 6 Α Yes, sir. 7 Doesn't the -- doesn't a blanket refusal to fill take away the pharmacist's ability to exercise 9 independent judgment because it's based on a 10 corporate requirement? 11 A No, sir. 12 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 13 BY MR. SWANSON: Why not? 14 15 Α The blanket refusal would be an independent 16 judgment made by the pharmacist at the store. 17 is occurring with these policies is that the pharmacists from Walgreens in documents that I've 18 looked at have asked to have certain prescribers 19 20 put on a prescriber list so that prescriptions would not be filled by those prescribers and that 2.1 was refused, and the policy back said, we must take 22 23 these on a case-by-case basis. If the pharmacist's independent judgment has 24 25 determined that the prescriber is diverting

Page 385

medication to not writing medications for legitimate medical purposes, then the pharmacist should make the independent judgment that they are not going to fill prescriptions for that prescriber for a controlled substance.

And I say that also based on my experience as a pharmacist, when a physician exhibited this type of behavior, we reported him to the state board of pharmacy, and I personally refused to fill any prescriptions for that doctor for controlled substances until the DEA or board of pharmacy had investigated that prescriber or medical board and provided back to me clearance that the pattern and actions were correct.

- Q Have you seen evidence in this case of Walgreens' refusal to fill files?
- A Yes, sir, I have.
- 18 Q And you didn't cite those in your report. Did you actually review them?
  - A Yes, I did cite them in my report, sir.
  - Q Okay. So you have seen evidence of Walgreens pharmacy -- pharmacists using their independent judgment to refuse to fill prescriptions that they felt were suspicious or illegitimate? You've seen that, right?

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Page 386 1 MR. ELSNER: Objection. So I clarify, sir, I looked at the good faith 2 dispensing checklist that each Walgreens 3 pharmacist -- and on there I thought there was 5 refusal to dispense. If that's not the document, then I'm not sure exactly what you're referring to 6 or if I reviewed that document. BY MR. SWANSON: 8 Was it your view while you were at the NABP that blanket refusal to fill policies improperly 10 interfered with the pharmacist's independent 11 12 professional judgment? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. No, sir. 14 15 BY MR. SWANSON: At the NABP, did you advocate that pharmacy stores 16 17 should implement blanket refusals to fill for prescribers? 18 19 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 20 Α I advocated that the pharmacists should use independent judgment and if they determined that, 2.1 then they had all the writing authority to 22 blanketly refuse to fill a prescription from a 23 prescriber, yes, sir. 24 25 BY MR. SWANSON:

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Page 387 Well, but you're talking about a pharmacist blanketly refusing to fill. I'm asking about a pharmacy mandating that its pharmacists refuse to fill for a prescriber. Do you see the difference there? Α Yes, sir. And certainly, a pharmacist could determine that he or she doesn't trust the prescription that he's seeing from a physician and be suspicious of those and not fill them. My question is whether, at the NABP, you advocated that pharmacies should implement blanket refusal to fill policies to prevent all of their pharmacists from filling prescriptions from certain prescribers. Is that something you advocated at NABP? MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. Because NABP and the DEA feel that the Α

Yes, sir. Because NABP and the DEA feel that the pharmacy, as well as the pharmacist, is the registrant and responsibility and also held a corresponding responsibility.

I advocated while at NABP that the pharmacy incorporation should have appropriate controls and empower the pharmacist to make those independent judgments and provide the tools and support for the

Page 388 pharmacist to be able to do that in order to combat 1 2 diversion. So the answer is yes. BY MR. SWANSON: 3 Q But a blanket refusal to fill policy is not 4 empowering a pharmacist to use independent 5 judgment. It is taking away a pharmacist's 6 7 independent judgment, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 No, sir. 9 Α 10 BY MR. SWANSON: So if a pharmacy company tells its pharmacists, you 11 12 cannot fill any prescriptions written by Dr. Smith, 13 in your view, that's empowering the pharmacist to use his or her independent judgment when he gets a 14 15 prescription from Dr. Smith? 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 17 Α Yes, sir. And it goes back to your earlier 18 question. BY MR. SWANSON: 19 20 That's fine. Q They are using dispensing data by the corporation 2.1 A to make that determination with the pharmacist so 22 23 the corporation that is assuming responsibility providing the tools to the pharmacist needed to 24 25 make such a decision.

Page 389 1 Okay. I'm going to introduce a new exhibit. I'm sorry that I'm rushing, but I'm -- time is tight. 2 If you can open up WAG 23. 3 (Exhibit 18 was marked for identification.) 4 5 Α Excuse me, Mr. Swanson? Yes. 6 0 7 THE WITNESS: I think Ms. Fumerton has her hand raised. I don't know if she's trying to get 8 someone's attention, so she's blocking my screen 10 and I can't see and so ... MR. SWANSON: She may well be. 11 12 MS. FUMERTON: Am I on video? Please tell me 13 I'm not. Actually, you know what? Brian, could we -- I'm sorry, I did not mean to do that. But 14 15 Brian, could we just take a quick break? I'm sorry. I know it's not an hour. Just about five 16 17 minutes? THE WITNESS: Fine with me. 18 19 MR. ELSNER: We haven't gone an hour but what's the reason for the break? The witness is 20 available. 21 22 MS. FUMERTON: Just a quick break. We have 2.3 been going about an hour. 24 MR. ELSNER: It hasn't been an hour. 25 MR. SWANSON: Well, here, let me do --

Page 390 SPECIAL MASTER COHEN: If someone needs a 1 2 break, we ought to take a break. MR. SWANSON: Okay. 3 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the record 4 at 8:59 a.m. 5 (A recess was taken.) 6 7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is the Media Number 2 in the deposition of Carmen Catizone. Today is 8 June 16th, 2021. We're going to back on the record 9 10 at 9:07 a.m. BY MR. SWANSON: 11 12 Mr. Catizone, I have marked as Exhibit 18 a document. It has an email cover dated March 10, 13 2015, an email to the stakeholder member 14 15 organizations from you, and then it attaches the 16 document that I want to talk about, which is the 17 "Stakeholders Challenges and Red Flag Warning Signs Related to Prescribing and Dispensing Controlled 18 Substances." 19 20 Is that the document that you have in front of you, sir? 2.1 22 Α Yes. 23 Q This is a document that you've cited throughout your report in this case, correct? 24 25 Yes, sir. Α

Page 391 You've relied on this document, among others, to 1 2 support your analysis of red flags in this case, right? 3 Α Yes, sir. 4 This document was created -- Exhibit 18 was created 5 Q 6 while you were the executive director at NABP, 7 right? Yes, sir. A You sat on a panel or a committee that met to 9 10 discuss the contents of this document, true? 11 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 12 It was not a formal committee, sir. It was just a 13 stakeholder group or coalition. BY MR. SWANSON: 14 15 Okay. Call it coalition, committee panel, whatever 16 you want. It was a group of folks that got 17 together to create the content of this document, 18 right? Yes, sir. 19 A 20 Those groups or entities are listed on the Q 2.1 beginning page of the actual stakeholder document, 22 right? It starts with the American Academy of Family Physicians? 23 Yes, sir. 24 A 25 And the entities that are listed on that

Page 392 page ending in 240, those were the entities that 1 2 participated in the creation of this red flag warning signs document, right? 3 Α Yes, sir. 4 5 Q Were you the principal drafter? I was the executive editor, so to speak, sir. 6 Α 7 Did you sort of have responsibility for the final Q content of the document? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 9 10 Α My responsibility was to coordinate all of the content and pull it all together, sir. 11 12 BY MR. SWANSON: And do you stand behind the content of the 13 document, Exhibit 18? 14 15 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 16 Yes, sir, but the individual content areas were the A 17 responsibility of the various stakeholders. I did not have control over that, simply to make sure 18 that the document fit together as a cohesive 19 20 document, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 2.1 22 Q Right. But the document went out with your 23 support, right? 24 Α Yes, sir. 25 Do you believe that the document, Exhibit 18, was

Page 393 an important tool for helping pharmacists to detect 1 2. possible diversion? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α Not exactly, sir. 4 BY MR. SWANSON: 5 Okay. What was the purpose of this document? 6 7 The purpose of this document was to foster A communication between the stakeholders about red 9 flags and the challenges that each of those groups 10 faced so that the other groups would have a better 11 understanding of what their responsibilities were 12 and why pharmacists/prescribers were reacting and 13 doing the things that they did. One of the things that the stakeholders document 14 15 does is identify possible red flags of diversion, 16 right? 17 Yes, sir. Α 18 Why was it necessary for the NABP to create a document describing possible red flags of 19 20 diversion? Why not just rely on the DEA's definition of red flags? 2.1 22 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 23 A So back to the purpose of the meaning of the There were problems between prescribers 24 25 and pharmacists regarding red flags and

Page 394

corresponding responsibility. And so the red flags were used as discussion points between the groups to identify areas where there had been challenges and where physicians didn't understand why pharmacists and pharmacies had corresponding responsibility and why pharmacists were doing the things they did.

## BY MR. SWANSON:

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- Q What complaints did the physicians have about pharmacists corresponding responsibility?
- A Just before the organization of the stakeholders document, at the AMA annual meeting, one of the regional AMAs passed a resolution and the resolution said that pharmacists should simply fill prescriptions from the doctors and that pharmacists should provide no check or no second-guessing of those prescriptions, and that the pharmacists were interfering with the practice of medicine by exercising their responsibilities and prospective drug utilization review.

The particular issue was between Walgreens and the AMA. And we were approached by Walgreens and the AMA to convene a meeting of the stakeholders to try and resolve that communication issue, because pharmacists were conducting DUR questioning

Page 395 patients and questioning prescribers in accordance 1 2 with the corresponding responsibility. So if I -- let me break that down a bit. You were 3 0 approached by Walgreens and the AMA to convene this 4 group of stakeholders? 5 Yes, sir. 6 Α 7 And who was it from Walgreens? I remember the individual from the AMA was one of their attorneys. And I think there were several 9 10 people at Walgreens, but I can't remember 11 specifically who it was. 12 And you said the circumstances where the AMA had 13 passed a resolution asking, in essence, that the pharmacists stop challenging their prescribing 14 15 decisions and just dispense medications that they 16 prescribed. Is that a fair assessment? 17 Α The second part is, sir. The physicians said that pharmacists should just dispense any prescription 18 that's written. 19 20 And the folks at Walgreens had a problem with that Q because they had been calling the physicians to 2.1 22 check on a prescription or to confirm that the 23 prescription was appropriate, and that was upsetting the doctors, right? 24 25 Objection. MR. ELSNER:

Page 396 It was part of the problem. Some of the 1 2. pharmacists were calling and asking for x-rays, MRIs, and other information that the physicians 3 felt extended way beyond what the pharmacist's 4 5 responsibility was. BY MR. SWANSON: 6 7 Okay. So the folks at the AMA thought that the Walgreens pharmacists were doing too much inquiry into the doctor's practice; is that fair? 9 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. 11 A 12 BY MR. SWANSON: 13 And the folks at Walgreens wanted guidance on what 0 they should be doing so that they could still meet 14 15 their corresponding responsibility in dispensing 16 medications, right? 17 Α The purpose was that NABP would serve as an objective third party and open the lines of 18 communication so that physicians and AMA would 19 20 understand what pharmacists needed to do. And then pharmacists then wouldn't encroach beyond what the 2.1 22 responsibilities were into the practice of medicine as well. 23 Does the stakeholders challenges and red flags 24 25 warning signs document appropriately strike the

Page 397 balance in your view as between a pharmacist's 1 2 obligation and a doctor's obligations? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α To the extent that the individual red flags that 4 5 were discussed, yes, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 6 7 Now, in the stakeholders document at page 10, you can see there's a Section 3 that discusses red flags. I'll give you a second to get there. 9 10 Α I'm there, sir. Okay. So Section 3 is the red flags section of the 11 12 stakeholders document, correct? 13 Α Yes, sir. The section then breaks out, you know, what are red 14 15 flags to prescribers and what might be red flags to pharmacists, right? 16 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. 18 A BY MR. SWANSON: 19 20 And if you want to see what the red flags are for Q the pharmacists, you would turn to page 14 and 2.1 you'd see what was identified by the group as 22 23 pharmacy red flags, right? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 24 25 Some of the red flags, sir, yes.

Page 398 BY MR. SWANSON: 1 2 What do you mean by some of the red flags? The document does not include all of the red flags A that a pharmacist may encounter. It was again, red 4 flags that the group, the stakeholders, wanted to 5 have more discussion around. 6 7 Are you saying that the red flags that are identified on page 14 are the red flags that the stakeholders wanted to have more discussion around? 9 10 Is that -- did I understand that correctly? 11 A Yes, sir. 12 And you're saying that there are additional red Q 13 flags that aren't included here? Yes, sir. Α 14 15 And I was going to ask you about that because Q 16 these -- the red flags that are identified in -- on 17 page 14 don't match up exactly with the red flags that you've identified in your report. Do you 18 agree with that? 19 20 Yes, sir. Α Would you agree with me that reasonable minds can 2.1 Q 22 differ as to what constitutes a red flag to a 23 pharmacist? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 24 25 No, sir. Α

Page 399 BY MR. SWANSON: 1 2. So when you say that it's a red flag if a patient travels more than 25 miles to see his or her prescriber, you're saying if somebody said I 4 think it's more reasonable to be -- to set it at 5 35 miles, you'd say no, reasonable minds can't 6 disagree about this, it's 25 miles? 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 9 Α The question as you've posed it, the DEA in their 10 guidance in other documents have pointed out 11 specific red flags. So distance is a red flag. 12 25 miles is a parameter that, as I've determined, 13 is a safe parameter to utilize. So a pharmacist may, in their professional and independent 14 15 judgment, make a determination that 30 miles or 16 20 miles may not be a red flag. But it's still a 17 red flag for them to conduct further due diligence. The red flags the DEA have identified, those 18 are not things that are discussed or debatable. 19 20 They are actually standards of care in that highway. 2.1 BY MR. SWANSON: 22 23 0 But my question was a bit more basic. reasonable minds differ as to what constitutes a 24 25 red flag?

Page 400 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 Out of the 16 red flags I have identified in my report, my answer is no, sir. 3 BY MR. SWANSON: 4 That reasonable minds could not differ? Those 16 5 Q red flags are required, no ifs, ands, or buts; is 6 7 that your testimony? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 9 Α Yes, sir. 10 BY MR. SWANSON: If you look -- so you have on page 14, it 11 12 identifies -- I don't know the number, but it 13 identifies the red flags that the panel wanted to discuss, right? 14 15 Α Yes, sir. Then in section 4, there's a section that's called, 16 Q "Other aberrant medication-related behaviors and 17 factors potentially indicative of substance abuse 18 or diversion, " right? 19 20 Yes, sir. Α And again, it breaks out between physicians and 21 Q 22 pharmacists about what might constitute other 23 aberrant behavior, right? Yes, sir. 24 Α 25 On page 16, if you go to the section on

Page 401 pharmacists, I want to ask you about that. Are you 1 2. there? Yes, sir. 3 A The second sentence in that paragraph reads: 4 "While the above factors or "red flags" are more 5 indicative of substance abuse or diversion, 6 7 oftentimes, more subtle aberrant behaviors exist that, while in and of themselves may not be 8 problematic, may indicate a potential issue that 9 10 warrants further evaluation prior to dispensing." 11 Do you see that? 12 THE REPORTER: We've lost the witness. MR. ELSNER: Sorry. We had a power surge. 13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the record 14 15 at 9:20 a.m. 16 (A recess was taken.) 17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the record at 9:21 a.m. 18 BY MR. SWANSON: 19 20 Mr. Catizone, I'm not sure where I cut out. don't I read my last question back and we'll start 2.1 there, okay? 22 23 Α Thank you. Okay. I've directed you to page 16 of the 24 25 stakeholders document, the section regarding

Page 402 1 pharmacists, right? Page 15 is prescribers. 2 3 Q 16. Oh, 16, sorry. Okay. 5 MR. ELSNER: The second sentence under "Pharmacists." 6 7 BY MR. SWANSON: Correct. It reads: "While the above factors or 8 Q 9 'red flags' are more indicative of substance abuse or diversion, oftentimes more subtle aberrant 10 11 behaviors exist that, while in and of themselves may not be problematic, may indicate a potential 12 13 issue that warrants further evaluation prior to dispensing." 14 15 Did I read that correctly? 16 Yes, sir. A 17 And then it goes on to describe some of these -what you and the stakeholders termed aberrant 18 behaviors, right? 19 20 The pharmacist stakeholders did, sir. Α Well, so what's your responsibility for this 2.1 Q 22 document? I mean, is this something that you say, well, there are a bunch of stakeholders but they 23 only take ownership for their specific sections? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 403

What happened, sir, was each group was asked to write their individual sections. So prescribers were asked as to what they viewed red flags, what the challenges they faced with patients, same with the pharmacists group. So the American Pharmacy Association, Walgreens, all the participants that were pharmacies and pharmacists put together this section.

My role was to ensure that there was nothing offensive in there that criticized or aggravated the other stakeholders. But this is what the pharmacy groups felt was happening in pharmacy practice in their interactions with prescribers that was important for prescribers to know.

## BY MR. SWANSON:

2.

2.1

- Q But it's a document that you supported, right, you supported the stakeholders document in its final form, right?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Okay. And if you objected to positions or language that was included in this stakeholder document, you didn't have to sign off on it, right? You could have said, I'm not going to be a party to this, you had that opportunity if you needed it, right?
- A Yes, sir, I thought the question was whether or not

Page 404 I agreed with this. And my role was not to agree 1 2. with it. It was to make sure that the document met its purpose, which was open the lines of 3 communication. 4 5 Q Okay. But in any event, you were -- it was 6 acceptable to you that the document went out with 7 you as a signatory, so to speak, and was published with your name on it, right? Yes, sir. 9 Α 10 And the section on aberrant behaviors for Q 11 pharmacists, it says: "Aberrant behaviors that 12 patients may exhibit upon the presentation of the 13 prescription include traveling unexplainable and/or unreasonably long distance to a physician office 14 15 and/or the pharmacy, or requesting to pay cash for 16 a controlled substance prescription when it has 17 been documented that he or she has insurance that would normally cover the prescription." 18 19 Right? 20 Yes, sir. Α And in your view, those are -- at least your view 2.1 22 in this case, in this litigation, is that -- those 23 two behaviors, traveling long distances and paying cash, they are red flags that nobody could disagree 24 25 They're just -- they're red flags, right? with?

Page 405 Yes, sir. 1 2 In the document that you signed off on, the stakeholders document said no, no, no, those aren't red flags, they are behaviors that might warrant 4 suspicion, but they might have easily explainable 5 answers, right? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. No, sir. 8 A BY MR. SWANSON: 9 10 Well, it says: "Whereas, these types of behaviors Q may be warning signs, they can also be explained by 11 12 today's specialty practice arena as well as 13 third-party payor reimbursement circumstances." Right? 14 15 That's what it says. Α Okay. And this wasn't something that you objected 16 0 17 to such that you refused to put your name on this 18 document, right? What the document -- what it says, that I signed 19 20 off on, sir, was that these may be aberrant behaviors as well as red flags. But the document 2.1 22 also says that both types of situations result in 23 diversion. And also if you read in there, an important point that you and I have been discussing 24 25 all morning, it says "whereas, documented."

Page 406 once again is the importance of documentation that 1 2 is documented if a person has insurance, the documentation about that patient decides whether or 3 not the red flag that's been identified is 5 legitimate or not. So documentation is critical to this entire 6 7 process, as the document was constructed, my interpretation and my sign-off of that document, sir. 9 Well, sir, respectfully, what it says is, when it 10 has been documented that he or she has insurance. 11 12 That's the documentation it's talking about, right? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. No, the documentation included the prescription 14 Α 15 process which would include that as part of the process. I was there for the document, sir, and 16 that was how it was presented and understood. 17 18 BY MR. SWANSON: Okay. Well, what it says, all right, so the people 19 20 who weren't there who were just getting this out in the public, it says: "Requesting to pay cash for a 2.1 22 controlled substance prescription when it has been documented that he or she has insurance, that would 23 normally cover the prescription." That's what the 24

document reads, correct, "yes" or "no"?

25

Page 407 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 Yes. Pharmacists would know what that means. BY MR. SWANSON: Q Yes. And you don't claim that any of the 4 defendants in this case didn't document whether the 5 6 patient who came in had insurance or not? 7 not a claim you're making, is it? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 9 Α I'm not understanding the question. I'm sorry, sir. 10 BY MR. SWANSON: 11 12 You're not saying that the retail pharmacies in 13 this case didn't have documentation about whether the patient had insurance, right? 14 15 Α I'm claiming that the defendants in this case 16 should have documented the prescription process 17 which included whether they had insurance coverage 18 or not. Now, I was going to ask you whether it said 19 20 anywhere in this document that the pharmacist was required to document resolution of red flags. And 2.1 22 I thought you were going to say no, but I guess 23 because the word document has appeared in that paragraph, you're going to say that this document 24 25 does say that pharmacists must document resolution

Page 408 of red flags; is that right? 1 2 Yes, sir. Okay. So if I asked you the question, where in 3 Q this document does it tell me and tell pharmacists 4 that they're required to document the resolution of 5 6 red flags, you would point me to that sentence that 7 I just read? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 9 Α I would point you to that paragraph, sir, which 10 says, here is a behavior. It is a red flag. could also be an aberrant behavior, and here's the 11 12 resolution of that behavior by a pharmacist, which 13 was determining whether or not distance was a probable explanation and that was documented. 14 15 So that paragraph in its entirety and as part 16 of the document is exactly the basis for the 17 requirement for documentation, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 18 19 Got it. 20 I'm about done. I'd like you to turn Okay. to page 4 of your report. 2.1 Yes, sir. 22 Α 23 Q Okay. Page 4 is a continuation of the summary of 24 your opinions in this case, right? 25 Yes, sir. Α

Page 409 And I want to ask you about the last bullet, the 1 2. last summary opinion that you provide here. You say that: "The defendants failed to 3 provide their pharmacists with data, information, 4 5 and the tools necessary to assist their pharmacists 6 in fulfilling their corresponding responsibility, 7 duties, including but not limited to, utilizing dispensing data to identify patterns, trends, and practitioners possibly involved in diversion, as 9 10 well, to recognize and resolve red flags." Do you see that? 11 Yes, sir. 12 Α 13 Is it your opinion in this case that pharmacists cannot fill their corresponding responsibility 14 15 without the systems that you claim the retail chain 16 pharmacy should have implemented? 17 A Those systems are needed to assist the pharmacists, 18 sir. Well, my question was different. 19 20 Is it your opinion that pharmacists cannot fulfill their corresponding responsibility without 2.1 22 the systems that you claim the retail chains should 23 have implemented? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 24 25 If pharmacists do not have the access to

Page 410 information about the patient prescriber they need 1 to fill that prescription, my answer is yes. 2 BY MR. SWANSON: 3 Okay. But I want to be clear on this, because you 5 say that there were very specific systems that had to be implemented by the retail chain pharmacies 6 and specific ways to use the dispensing data. That's your opinion, right? 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I refer to them as tools, sir, not -- and I didn't 10 Α specify what they should be. But they should be 11 12 tools available to the pharmacists. 13 BY MR. SWANSON: And in your opinion, those tools include --14 15 necessarily must include using dispensing data 16 making the dispensing data available to the 17 pharmacist to detect possible patterns of diversion, that's your opinion, right? 18 Yes, sir. 19 Α 20 So my question is, is it your opinion that Q pharmacists cannot fulfill their corresponding 2.1 22 responsibility without that tool, that specific tool, that you claim the retail chains should have 23 implemented? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 411 As an individual pharmacist, they have 1 Yes, sir. 2. the dispensing data available to them to make that decision. In a corporation like Walgreens, that 3 dispensing data rests with the corporation. And if 4 5 the corporation doesn't provide that data to the pharmacist, the pharmacist doesn't have the 6 7 complete information to make that decision. MR. SWANSON: Okay. Move to strike as 8 9 nonresponsive. 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. SWANSON: 11 12 Is it your opinion that pharmacists cannot fulfill 13 their corresponding responsibility without the specific tool that you just discussed that you 14 15 claim the retail chain pharmacies should have 16 implemented? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection; asked and answered. Without dispensing data on controlled substances 18 Α and red flags, my answer is yes, sir. 19 20 BY MR. SWANSON: And you've identified of all the pharmacies in the 2.1 22 country, one pharmacy that has -- that you say has 23 such a system, right? 24 Α No, sir. 25 Objection. MR. ELSNER:

Page 412 1 BY MR. SWANSON: What other pharmacies other than Albertsons have 2 you identified? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 5 Α You asked me to give one example. I gave you one example, and then said I could not identify other 6 7 individual pharmacies without being able to go through and question and look at all the different 8 pharmacy systems. So my answer is -- my answer was, there were more pharmacies, but I could not 10 identify those beyond Albertsons. 11 BY MR. SWANSON: 12 13 The second sentence, you say: "The subsequent Q result of the failure to provide such data, 14 15 information, and tools was the diversion of 16 significant quantities of controlled substances, 17 particularly opioids, outside of the closed distribution and dispensing system for controlled 18 substances." 19 20 Right? Yes, sir. 2.1 A Now, in your report, you've identified, and we've 22 Q talked a lot about 16 different red flags, right? 23 Yes, sir. 24 Α 25 And those red flags have been run by Dr. McCann

		Page 413
1		across some subset of each pharmacy's dispensing
2		data, right?
3	A	Yes, sir.
4	Q	And the result is that in your report, you've
5		identified, for each red flag, a certain number of
6		prescriptions, right?
7	A	Dr. McCann identified, sir.
8	Q	Okay. And then you put those into your report,
9		right?
10	A	Yes, sir.
11	Q	So if you turn, please, to page 33, I just want to
12		ask you about one of these and then we'll finish
13		up.
14	A	I'm there, sir.
15	Q	Okay. On page 33, I want to look at your red flag
16		Number 2, okay?
17	A	"Prescriber Distance," sir?
18	Q	Yes. So there, you've said it's a red flag if a
19		patient traveled more than 25 miles to visit their
20		prescriber, right?
21	A	Yes, sir.
22	Q	For Walgreens, you identified 37,066 prescriptions
23		that fit that red flag in some subset of dispensing
24		data between 2006 and 2020, right?
25	A	Again, just to clarify, Dr. McCann identified those

Page 414 prescriptions. That was included in my report, 1 2 yes. And to be clear here, you did not look at any 3 individual prescription in that set, 37,066 4 prescriptions, to test your opinion as to whether 5 that was actually -- any one was actually a 6 7 suspicious prescription, right? Correct, sir. 8 A So you can't tell me that any of the doctors who 9 10 wrote any one of those 37,066 prescriptions, right? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 11 12 I'm sorry, sir. I didn't understand what the 13 question was. BY MR. SWANSON: 14 15 You can't identify any doctor who wrote any of 16 those 37,066 prescriptions, right? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 18 A Correct, sir. BY MR. SWANSON: 19 20 But those 37,066 prescriptions, they might have Q been written oncologists at the Cleveland Clinic. 2.1 You just don't know one way or the other, right? 22 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I did not review the individual prescriptions, just 24 25 aggregate data, sir.

Page 415 1 BY MR. SWANSON: And because you didn't look at any individual 2 prescription, you can't say if any diligence was 3 conducted on any of those prescriptions, right? 5 You just don't know? Objection. 6 MR. ELSNER: 7 Partially, sir. If the documentation was included Α on patient notes, I would have been able to 8 9 determine that without seeing the individual prescription, but I didn't have that information 10 available either. 11 BY MR. SWANSON: 12 13 But you didn't look at any prescriptions? So you Q can't say whether a red flag was cleared or wasn't 14 15 cleared by the pharmacist, right? Again, you just 16 don't know because you're relying on aggregate 17 data, right? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Objection; mischaracterizes his testimony. 19 20 We used the aggregate data. What was missing for me to substantiate that was the documentation in 2.1 notes that the pharmacist should have included to 22 23 resolve that red flag. BY MR. SWANSON: 24 25 Okay. Whether it was missing or not, you just

Page 416 don't know one way or the other whether a 1 2. pharmacist cleared and documented any of those 37,066 prescriptions, right? You just don't know? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 Correct. 5 Α BY MR. SWANSON: 6 7 And you can't say -- because of that, you can't say whether any of those 37,066 prescriptions were 9 written for an illegitimate reason, right? No, sir. 10 Α Well, if you didn't look at the prescription, and 11 12 you don't know who the doctor was writing it, and 13 you don't know the circumstances of the prescription, how can you say that any one of those 14 15 37,066 prescriptions was written for an 16 illegitimate reason? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 18 A Based on information I provided earlier. Based on the amount of opioids that were dispensed in those 19 20 two counties. Based upon the amount of deaths per hundred thousand people in those two counties. And 2.1 based on the fact that still 37,000 prescriptions 22 23 tagged for that red flag indicates to me from an aggregate data and overall view that diversion 24 25 occurred and diversion occurred at a significant

Page 417 level; even though I can't identify which specific 1 2. prescriptions were diverted. BY MR. SWANSON: 3 Okay. You can't tell me what individual 5 prescriptions were, in your view, illegitimate. 6 What percentage of those 37,066 prescriptions were 7 written for an illegitimate reason? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 The best way I can qualify that and give you an 9 Α 10 answer, sir, is a significant number based upon the 11 total of opioids that were dispensed and based on 12 the resulting deaths in overdoses. Beyond that, I 13 can't give you anything more than "significant" and I can't qualify it beyond "significant." 14 15 BY MR. SWANSON: So you can't tell me if it's 10 percent or 16 17 20 percent or 30 percent, you can't tell me that, 18 can you, sir? I can if you provide the documentation that whether 19 20 or not those red flags were resolved. That would allow me to give you the percentage versus the 2.1 aggregate totals, the deaths, and the supply of 22 23 opioids in those two counties. 24 But I have you in front of me today for 25 questioning. So sitting there in your chair today,

Page 418 you can't tell me what percentage of those 37,066 1 2. prescriptions you claimed were written for an illegitimate reason, true? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 My answer is significant and significant would be 5 A far greater than 10, 20, or 30 percent. Probably 6 7 more in the range of between 70 and 80 or 90 percent, sir. 8 BY MR. SWANSON: 9 10 Oh, so your opinion -- your opinion is that 70 to Q 90 percent of those 37,066 prescriptions were 11 12 written for an illegitimate reason? 13 Α No, sir. You asked me to define just sitting in the chair today what I thought would be a 14 15 significant number. And to me, a significant 16 number is somewhere to 70, 80 percent. Again, 17 lacking the documentation, I cannot quantify whether or not those 37,000 prescriptions fell into 18 that category. But if you ask me what's the 19 20 difference between significant and others, for me a significant number of prescriptions would be 70, 2.1 22 80 percent if I could make that determination, sir. 23 0 So a significant quantity of controlled substances at 70 to 80 percent to you? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 419 1 A significant number versus not a significant number, sir. 2 BY MR. SWANSON: 3 Okay. 70 to 80 percent is what you qualify as 5 significant? Yes, sir. 6 A 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. SWANSON: 8 So let's turn back to page 4. I want to read the second sentence of your opinion again. 10 "The subsequent result of the failure to 11 provide such data, information, and tools was a 12 13 diversion of significant quantities of controlled substances particularly opioids, outside of the 14 15 closed distribution and dispensing system for controlled substances." Right? 16 17 Yes, sir. Α So if I understand your testimony, it is your view 18 that 70 to 90 percent of the medications that were 19 20 dispensed by the retail chain pharmacies were diverted outside of the closed distribution and 2.1 22 dispensing system for controlled substances? 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. SWANSON: 24 25 Right?

Page 420 No, sir. 1 Α 2. Okay. Where is my disconnect there? The disconnect is, I've said that a significant A number of prescriptions were diverted outside of 4 5 the system. But absent patient notes and other documentation, I couldn't qualify or quantify what 6 7 significant meant. And defining significant as a general term, that term for me means between 70 and 9 90 percent. If I had the documentation, I would be 10 able then to make a determination beyond how many 11 patients died in Lake and Trumbull County, and how 12 many opiates were distributed per person in opiate 13 [sic] county that, to me, supports "significant" and would help me quantify that beyond just the 14 15 term "significant." Sitting here today, can you do anything other than 16 17 speculate as to what percentage of the 37,066 prescriptions that hit on flag 2 for Walgreens were 18 for an illegitimate medical purpose? 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, it's not a speculation, sir. It's based on 2.1 A 22 the data, the number of opioids that were distributed in those counties, the number of 23 overdoses and deaths indicate to me factually that 24 25 there was a significant diversion of prescriptions.

Page 421 1 BY MR. SWANSON: And again, significant to you is 70 to 80 percent? 2 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. As a general term, sir, yes. 5 BY MR. SWANSON: I don't want to go through it all, but would your 6 same answer apply if I asked you about any one of these numbers that you've included for any of the 8 retail chain pharmacies in the red flag analysis? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Significant in all of those cases, yes, sir. 11 A MR. SWANSON: I appreciate your answering my 12 13 questions. I think I'm short on time so I'm going to pass you off to one of my colleagues. 14 15 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir. 16 MR. SWANSON: Thank you. 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION OUESTIONS BY JOHN GISLESON: 18 Good morning, Mr. Catizone. My name is John 19 20 Gisleson and I represent Rite Aid. 2.1 Have you been to either Lake County or 22 Trumbull County? No, sir. 23 Α Do you know how many stores, pharmacy stores Rite 24 25 Aid has in Lake County?

Page 422 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 I think approximately four or five, sir, but I'm not certain. BY MR. GISLESON: 4 Do you know how many stores any of the other 5 Q pharmacy defendants have in Lake County? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, I've looked at that data, and I think they 8 A vary between three and five for the other 9 10 defendants, Giant Eagle has the smallest number of 11 pharmacies within those counties, sir. 12 BY MR. GISLESON: 13 Same questions for Trumbull County. Do you know 0 how many pharmacy stores each of the chain 14 15 defendants have in Trumbull County? 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 17 I believe it's relatively the same proportion, sir, somewhere between three and five for the larger 18 chains, and then maybe one or two for Giant Eagle. 19 20 BY MR. GISLESON: As part of your investigation in this case, did you 2.1 seek to determine what the specific geographic area 22 serviced by each store in each county was? 23 No, sir. 24 Α 25 Would you expect the geographic area serviced by

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Page 423
 1
           each pharmacy store in Lake and Trumbull County to
 2
           vary?
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
 3
      Α
            If you could help me understand what you mean by
 5
            "vary," sir.
        BY MR. GISLESON:
 6
 7
           Sure. Would you expect that some stores -- strike
            t.hat..
 8
 9
                Would you expect that some pharmacy stores in
           Lake and Trumbull Counties service a larger
10
11
           geographic area, whereas others might service a
           smaller geographic area?
12
13
      A
           Yes, sir.
           Did you do anything to investigate the specific
14
15
           geographic area serviced by each pharmacy store in
           Lake and Trumbull Counties?
16
17
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
18
      A
           No, sir.
        BY MR. GISLESON:
19
20
           Did you do anything as part of your investigation
      Q
            in this case to determine how many patients were
2.1
            serviced by each chain pharmacy store in Lake and
22
           Trumbull County?
23
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
24
25
           No, sir.
      A
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Page 424 BY MR. GISLESON: 1 2 Would you expect that some chain pharmacy stores in Lake and Trumbull County have more patients than other stores? 4 5 Α Yes, sir. Did you do anything to evaluate the demographics of 6 7 the patients served by each chain pharmacy store in Lake and Trumbull County? 9 Α No, sir. 10 Do you agree that the patient demographics may vary Q from store to store, depending on the local 11 12 community? 13 I would agree the demographics would vary, but the Α opioid epidemic cuts across all demographic factors 14 15 and affects equal -- the populations equally. 16 yes and no, sir. 17 As part of your analysis in this case, did you do a specific investigation of the dispensing practices 18 of any particular pharmacy? 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, Mr. Gisleson, by dispensing practices, can 2.1 A you just help me understand what you mean by that? 22 BY MR. GISLESON: 23 24 Sure. 25 Did you evaluate the percentage of controlled

Page 425 versus noncontrolled prescriptions dispensed by a 1 2 particular pharmacy store in Lake or Trumbull County? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 5 A No, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 6 7 Did you evaluate the prescribing -- strike that. Did you evaluate the dispensing practices of 9 any particular pharmacist in either Lake or 10 Trumbull County? No, sir. 11 A Did you review any patient medical records for any 12 Q 13 of the prescriptions that you flagged? No, sir. 14 Α 15 Did you speak with any pharmacists in Ohio who Q 16 worked for one of the chain pharmacy defendants? 17 Α No, sir, but I read the depositions of the pharmacists who practiced in Ohio and supervised 18 pharmacists in Ohio. 19 20 Did you speak with anyone from the Ohio board of Q pharmacy concerning dispensing practices in Lake or 2.1 22 Trumbull County as part of the work you did in this 23 case? 24 Α No, sir. 25 During the time that you were preparing your report

Page 426 1 in this case, did you know who ran the day-to-day 2 operations of the Ohio board of pharmacy? Yes, sir. 3 A What's the name of that individual? 4 What division, sir? Steve Schierholt is the 5 Α executive director and oversees the entire board. 6 7 The compliance officer, is that who you were asking about, sir? 8 Either. 9 Q 10 Did you speak with either Mr. Schierholt or the compliance officer for the Ohio Board of 11 12 Pharmacy as part of your work in this case? 13 Α No, sir. Did you request from the Ohio board of pharmacy any 14 15 information as to the guidance the Ohio Board of 16 Pharmacy provided to chain pharmacy stores in Ohio? 17 Α No, sir. Did you do any investigation as to the continuing 18 education courses that were taken by the 19 20 pharmacists who worked for the chain pharmacy 2.1 defendants? No, sir. 22 Α What was the continuing education requirement for 23 Q pharmacists in Ohio between 2006 and 2020? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 427 That information is contained in NABP Survey of 1 2. Pharmacy Law, which I did not access but I could access if needed. 3 BY MR. GISLESON: 4 Can you describe what the Survey of Pharmacy Law 5 Q is? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Survey of Pharmacy Law is a compilation of state 8 A laws that the executive directors of the state 9 10 boards of pharmacy put together. Included in that section is the continuing education requirements of 11 12 each individual states, and I do believe that Ohio 13 requires some continuing education in pharmacy law, besides live and via workbook or webinar CE. 14 15 BY MR. GISLESON: 16 When you say compilation of state laws, how are Q 17 those laws compiled in that survey? There are a series of charts that specify certain 18 Α parts of the law or certain laws, and the state 19 20 board executive director fills that out. example, it would say, "is a license required for a 2.1 22 pharmacy in your state?" And the executive 23 director would check yes or no. That type of compilation, sir. 24 25 Does the Survey of Pharmacy Law address the

Page 428 requirements of the Controlled Substances Act? 1 2 Some of those, sir, yes. As part of your responsibilities as the executive 3 0 director for the NABP, did you review the Survey of 4 Pharmacy Law before it was issued? 5 6 Α Yes, sir. 7 And did you approve the Survey of Pharmacy Law before it was issued? 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α I did not approve the individual state content 11 because that would be up to the states to determine 12 if that was correct. I approved the format of that 13 publication when it was released. BY MR. GISLESON: 14 15 What was the frequency with which the Survey of Q 16 Pharmacy Law was released by the NABP? 17 It's updated annually, sir. Α To whom did the NABP provide that survey of law? 18 0 It's provided to all the state boards of pharmacy, 19 20 all of the 140 colleges of pharmacy and it's provided to students as well, graduating students, 2.1 and then any pharmacy, pharmacist, corporation, or 22 individual that wants to purchase a copy is able to 23 do so. 24 25 So that if any pharmacist is interested in knowing

Page 429 what Ohio law requires of a pharmacist in 1 2. connection with dispensing controlled substances, it would be appropriate for that pharmacist to read 3 the Survey of Pharmacy Law for Ohio? 4 5 Α No. 6 Why not? 7 What the pharmacist would have to read and be Α responsible for is the Ohio practice and rules. 9 Ohio also has a requirement that pharmacists must 10 maintain a written copy of the Ohio newsletter and the Ohio newsletter includes updates and 11 12 information on laws in Ohio. 13 The Survey of Pharmacy Law would be a nice handy guide for pharmacists to better understand or 14 15 easily access questions they may have about the law 16 in Ohio. 17 Did the Survey of Pharmacy Law at any point between 2006 and 2020 specifically state for Ohio that 18 pharmacy law requires a pharmacist to document the 19 20 resolution of red flags? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 I don't recall that specific section, sir, in the 22 23 Survey of Pharmacy Law. BY MR. GISLESON: 24 25 Can you identify any newsletter issued by the board

Page 430 of Ohio that specifically stated that a pharmacist 1 2 must document the resolution of red flags? I can't specifically, but I do remember that, as 3 the executive editor and reviewing content at the 4 5 states, that the Ohio Board of Pharmacy did issue newsletters that talks about the responsibility of 6 7 the pharmacist as well as the pharmacy and did talk about red flags particularly after the Volkman 8 decision in Ohio. I know there were newsletters 10 from Ohio that talked about that. They talked 11 about resolving and documenting red flags, sir. If I want to get a complete set of the newsletters 12 13 that were issued by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy to pharmacists and pharmacies in Ohio, how can I 14 15 obtain that documentation? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 16 17 I think you --18 BY MR. GISLESON: I'll rephrase the question. 19 20 Do you know whether there was anybody in Ohio that compiles the newsletters that are issued by 2.1 22 the Ohio Board of Pharmacy to pharmacists? Just as basic information? The source of that 23 Α would be the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, but I'm not 24 25 sure what their record retention policy is in

Page 431 accordance with state or administrative practice 1 2. laws. So they would be the primary source for you to request that, sir. 3 You say in your report that: "Pharmacists have 4 been trained when determining whether to fill a 5 prescription for a controlled substance to be alert 6 7 for suspicious activity surrounding the prescription. Licensed or registered pharmacists 9 in every state are required to complete a formal 10 education program of didactic and practical experience." 11 12 Did that include how to resolve red flags in 13 controlled substance prescriptions? Α If I could ask you to direct me to the page you're 14 15 reading that from, sir, so I can make sure I 16 understand and am reading it correctly, please. 17 Page 28. 18 Α Thank you. Okay. I'm there, sir. Could you repeat the question, please? 19 20 Sure. Q You wrote that: "Pharmacists have been 2.1 22 trained when determining whether to fill a prescription for a controlled substance to be alert 23 for suspicious activities surrounding the 24 25 prescription. Licensed or registered pharmacists

Page 432 in every state are required to complete a formal 1 2. education program of didactic and practical experience." 3 That applies before they receive their 4 license; is that correct? 5 Yes, sir. 6 Α 7 And if you and the NABP is doing its job, it appropriately tests pharmacists on the licensure 9 examination to make sure that those pharmacists 10 seeking to become licensed know how to 11 appropriately resolve red flags for a controlled 12 substance prescription, correct? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Α That's one of the competencies in the overall state 14 15 Rx exams, sir, yes. BY MR. GISLESON: 16 17 And that's a serious competency that the NABP wants to ensure a pharmacist knows how to perform, right? 18 If I can clarify, it's not NABP because the state 19 20 law exam is developed and the content of that exam is selected by Ohio. It's the Ohio Board of 2.1 22 Pharmacy or that board determination that that's 23 critical and that the pharmacist should know that. NABP simply facilitates that process by 24 25 creating the exam and administering the exam for

Page 433 1 the state. 2 And throughout the time that you were the executive director for the NABP, you communicated with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, correct? 4 5 Α Yes, sir. And was it your understanding, based on your 6 7 communications with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, that the Ohio Board of Pharmacy believed it was 9 critical that pharmacists know how to perform a 10 review of a controlled substance prescription? 11 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 12 Based on my conversations with executive director Α 13 Bill Winsley and its investigators, particularly after the Volkman case, and what they found there 14 15 and what they found with the pharmacies and the 16 prescribers there, I could say yes, that was a 17 serious concern of Bill Winsley of the Ohio Board 18 of Pharmacy at the time, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 19 20 And the Ohio Board of Pharmacy to your knowledge, therefore, took appropriate steps to make sure that 2.1 pharmacists in Ohio were appropriately trained as 22 part of their licensure in the resolution of red 23 flags for controlled substances? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 434 The Ohio Board of Pharmacy took all the steps they 1 2. could to provide that information to pharmacists and indicate to them that this was a responsibility they needed to meet. Ohio Board of Pharmacy also 5 provided some educational programs, PowerPoints, but the training goes -- is just -- I'm 6 7 interpreting training to mean something hands-on and very different than what the Ohio board is 8 9 charged to do, sir. 10 BY MR. GISLESON: Pharmacists create relationships with patients, 11 12 true? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Α Yes, sir. 14 15 BY MR. GISLESON: Do you believe that the pharmacist who worked for 16 the chain pharmacies in Lake and Trumbull County 17 18 sought to create relationships with their patients? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 19 20 I have no idea how to answer that question, sir, because I'm not familiar with the pharmacists or 2.1 22 the patients. BY MR. GISLESON: 23 In evaluating whether a prescription for a 24 25 controlled substance was issued for a legitimate

Page 435 medical purpose, is it appropriate for the 1 pharmacist to take into consideration whether the 2. pharmacist has a preexisting relationship with a 3 patient? 4 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 5 Yes, sir. 6 Α 7 BY MR. GISLESON: So for example, would you expect, based on your Q experience as pharmacist as well as the executive 9 10 director of the National Boards of Pharmacies, that a pharmacist may develop over time an understanding 11 12 of the health conditions that led to a particular 13 patient taking prescription opioid medications? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 Α Yes, sir. 16 BY MR. GISLESON: 17 Did you investigate as part of the work you did in this case the extent to which any of the chain 18 pharmacy pharmacists had an existing relationship 19 20 for any of the patients for whom you have identified a flagged prescription? 2.1 No, sir. 22 Α Do you have any understanding how many patients 23 0 with flagged prescriptions were existing patients 24 25 known to the pharmacists?

Page 436 No, sir, but that information should have been 1 2. documented and included in the patient record. I didn't have access to that information, sir. 3 What patient record? 4 Q MR. ELSNER: Objection. 5 The patient profile or documentation, so that no 6 Α 7 pharmacist I'm aware of works 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so if there are other pharmacists in 8 9 the pharmacy that didn't have that relationship 10 with the patient, and didn't know that patient 11 history, documentation in that patient profile, or 12 with that prescription, would help that pharmacist 13 understand and realize those red flags had been resolved, sir. 14 15 BY MR. GISLESON: Between 2006 and the present, were pharmacies 16 17 required to maintain a patient profile for every 18 patient that was being served by the pharmacy? 19 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 20 The dispensing systems that the states required Α required that there be patient records and whether 2.1 22 that was an actual patient profile or some other 23 documentation, the pharmacies were required to document that information and maintain that 24 25 information.

Page 437 BY MR. GISLESON: 1 2 What was the information in Rite Aid's patient profile by category? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 I don't know, sir. I didn't have access to that 5 Α information. 6 BY MR. GISLESON: 7 Did you request access to Rite Aid's patient Q profile for the flagged prescriptions from the 9 10 plaintiff's lawyers? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 11 12 I didn't request the profile. I understand there's 13 a request that's been made for the patient notes of the defendants, but I am not sure what the status 14 15 of that is. 16 BY MR. GISLESON: 17 Did you review the patient profiles for any of the flagged prescriptions for any of the chain 18 pharmacies in this case? 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. No, sir. 2.1 A BY MR. GISLESON: 22 Is it appropriate, in your view, for a pharmacist 23 Q to review a patient profile maintained by the 24 25 pharmacy in evaluating whether to fill a

Page 438 prescription for opioid medications? 1 2 Yes, sir. Does a patient profile contain information relating 3 0 to a drug utilization review? 4 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. It should, sir. I can't comment as to whether each 6 Α 7 patient's profile contains that information, but it should, sir. 8 BY MR. GISLESON: 9 10 How many of the pharmacists who fill prescriptions Q on your flagged prescription list, did you report 11 12 to the Ohio Board of Pharmacy for violating their 13 corresponding responsibility? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 Α I think if we go back to your earlier questions and 16 my responses, sir, I did not look at individual 17 prescriptions, so I did not have access to who the individual pharmacist or prescribers were in each 18 of those cases. 19 20 BY MR. GISLESON: So none of the dispensing data you had identified 2.1 the pharmacist who filled a prescription? 22 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Not personally identifiable information, sir. 24 25 There may have been initials, but the information I

Page 439 looked at did not identify the pharmacist. 1 2 BY MR. GISLESON: Did you report to anyone with the Ohio Board of 3 Q Pharmacy, that in your view, a large number of 4 pharmacists at CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, Walmart, 5 and Giant Eagle violated their corresponding 6 7 responsibility based on your review of aggregate data? 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α Knowing the workings of the state boards of 11 pharmacy, sir, the answer is no, because I'm not 12 sure whether or not the Ohio Board of Pharmacy took 13 action against these pharmacists or has them under investigation. And I defer to the Ohio Board of 14 15 Pharmacy. If I'm presented with information to that 16 17 extent, then it would be my responsibility to report those pharmacists and those companies to the 18 Ohio Board of Pharmacy. 19 20 BY MR. GISLESON: The Ohio Board of Pharmacy does inspections of 2.1 Q 22 pharmacies in Lake and Trumbull County, correct? 23 Α Yes, sir. 24 And they have the ability as part of those 25 inspections to look at a pharmacy's dispensing

Page 440 system, correct? 1 2 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. 3 A BY MR. GISLESON: 4 In fact, isn't it true that the Ohio Board of 5 Q Pharmacy must approve any dispensing system used by 6 7 a pharmacy in Ohio? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 9 Α I believe that was a requirement at one time. 10 not sure if it still is, but yes, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 11 As part of your role as executive director of the 12 13 NABP, did the NABP at any time ever instruct the Ohio Board of Pharmacy or advise the Ohio Board of 14 15 Pharmacy that it should review a pharmacy's 16 dispensing system to determine whether it analyzes 17 data to identify patterns of diversion? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. We're talking about different systems here, sir. 19 20 So if I can clarify, in a pharmacy, there are numerous systems that the pharmacist has available. 2.1 There's a dispensing system that may focus on 22 processing a prescription and adjudicating the 23 claim. And then there's a DUR process, patient 24 25 profile process, and other patient information.

Page 441 NABP did instruct the Ohio Board of Pharmacy 1 2. through the model practice act as to what those requirements should be in total. And then as we 3 went through with the prior attorney, what the automated systems needed to document, but did not 5 say it had to be specific to dispensing, but it had 6 7 to be available, readily available to the pharmacists to make a determination on each 8 9 individual prescription, sir. 10 BY MR. GISLESON: Is there an average in the pharmacy industry for 11 12 how long a pharmacist should take to fill a 13 controlled substance prescription? Not that I'm aware of, sir. 14 Α 15 Is there an average in Ohio for how long it should Q take a pharmacist to fill a controlled substance 16 17 prescription? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Not that I'm aware of, sir. 19 20 BY MR. GISLESON: Have you ever analyzed as part of your work in this 2.1 case, how long a pharmacist working for one of the 22 chain pharmacies should take to evaluate a 23 prescription for a controlled substance to 24 25 determine whether it has a legitimate medical

Page 442 1 purpose? 2 MR. ELSNER: Objection. The analysis that I've done is that depending upon 3 A each prescription, that time could vary, just like 4 other medications, if it's a complicated situation, 5 6 it could take longer than less than a situation 7 that may not be as complicated. BY MR. GISLESON: I understand that you take issue with the chain 9 10 pharmacies' policies that they had. Did you do 11 anything to investigate the knowledge that any of 12 the pharmacists for the chain pharmacies had that 13 was independent of any policies or training that they received from the chain pharmacies? 14 15 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, Mr. Gisleson, I'm having a little trouble 16 A 17 understanding the question. 18 Can you rephrase it or help me so I can better answer it? 19 20 BY MR. GISLESON: 2.1 0 Sure. Did you make any effort to determine what 22 23 information or knowledge the pharmacists who worked for the chain pharmacies in Lake and Trumbull 24 25 County had about evaluating controlled substance

Page 443 prescriptions that was separate and apart from any 1 2. information they learned from the chain pharmacies? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α No, sir. 4 BY MR. GISLESON: 5 Did you review Rite Aid's computer-based training 6 7 they provided to pharmacists? If it was included in the policies and procedures, 8 A 9 then the answer was yes, sir. 10 All of it? Q Again, I reviewed all the policies and procedures 11 A 12 that were provided to me for Rite Aid. 13 Can you identify any pharmacist in either Lake 0 Trumbull County who filled a prescription for an 14 15 opioid medication with actual knowledge that the 16 prescription lacked a legitimate medical purpose? 17 Α I can answer that any pharmacist that filled a prescription that had an unresolved red flag 18 knowingly and willfully filled that prescription 19 20 and had knowledge that it was not for a legitimate medical purpose until it was resolved, and that 2.1 22 knowingly and willingly, that has been a guidance 23 issued by the DEA and is says that ignorance or not knowing does not negate the fact that the 24 25 pharmacist should have known that that was a red

Page 444 flag and should have been resolved. 1 2 And the only basis you have for identifying whether a pharmacist knowingly and willfully filled a prescription with an unresolved red flag is that 4 5 you have not seen any documentation showing that the red flag or red flags were resolved; is that 6 7 right? No, sir. A 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α The other two data points are the significant number of prescription opioids that were 11 12 distributed in Lake and Trumbull County and the 13 number of opioid and prescription drug overdoses in those two counties that point to the fact that 14 15 there was significant number of prescriptions 16 written for nonlegitimate purposes. 17 BY MR. GISLESON: For the overdoses in Lake and Trumbull County, did 18 0 you do any investigation to determine whether the 19 20 individuals who overdosed obtained those prescription medications from one of the chain 2.1 pharmacies in this case? 22 23 Α Not specifically, sir. Even generally? Do you have any evidence that even 24 25 a single person who overdosed in Lake and Trumbull

Page 445 County obtained the prescription opioid medication 1 2. from one of the chain pharmacies in this case? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α Not specific to a person, but again, the data 4 5 indicate that with that many prescriptions that the chains were distributing and if the -- in the 6 7 chains, the industry numbers say dispensed 70 to 80 percent of all prescriptions, that would 8 9 indicate to me that at least one person or more 10 received a prescription from a chain pharmacy in 11 those two counties. BY MR. GISLESON: 12 13 So that's an inference that you are drawing, 0 correct? 14 15 Α It's an inference based on hard data that the industry is well aware of and has been tested and 16 17 analyzed as well. 18 0 Now, you also reference a significant number of opioid medications that were dispensed in Lake and 19 20 Trumbull County. Did you do any investigation as part of your work in this case what an appropriate 2.1 22 and reasonable quantity of opioid medications was 23 to be dispensed and consumed in Lake and Trumbull Counties? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 446

Yes. Based upon the quantities of medication that were identified as excessive, what would be an appropriate amount of prescriptions in those two counties would be what the recommended doses would be for a legitimate medical condition, but I did not have that information, sir, because I didn't have documentation to determine how many of those prescriptions actually the red flags were resolved.

BY MR. GISLESON:

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Q So you believe that the quantities of medication for pain that were dispensed were excessive, but you can't identify what, in your view, is not an excessive amount, or is an appropriate amount for Lake and Trumbull County?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A I could, sir, if I had the data that indicated to me which one of those prescriptions that were filled for an excessive amount of prescriptions were actually legitimate. That would allow me to calculate what that appropriate amount of opioids should be for those two counties for legitimate pain management medications.

BY MR. GISLESON:

You have not performed that work, correct?
MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 447 The data hasn't been made available to me, so I 1 2. have not, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 3 Does the Ohio Board of Pharmacy to your knowledge 4 analyze OARRS data to identify prescribers issuing 5 prescriptions without a legitimate medical purpose? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. My understanding of the OARRS data, sir, is that 8 A the Ohio Board of Pharmacy analyzing red flags 9 10 associated with prescribers and then sends the 11 letters to those prescribers when they've 12 identified problems or other red flags that OARRS 13 has identified for those prescribers. BY MR. GISLESON: 14 15 Did the NABP also instruct the Ohio Board of Q 16 Pharmacy to send copies of those letters to the 17 pharmacies who were filling prescriptions for those prescribers so they know that the Ohio Board of 18 Pharmacy has a concern about specific opioid 19 20 prescribers? NABP has no authority or control over the Ohio 2.1 A Board of Pharmacy and OARRS, so that decision would 22 have been left to the Ohio board and how they 23 thought best to manage the registrants and 24 25 licensees in Ohio.

Page 448 To your knowledge as a former executive director 1 2. for NABP, did the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, in fact, notify any pharmacies in Lake and Trumbull County 3 of prescribers for whom the board of pharmacy had 4 concerns? 5 I'm not aware of that information, sir. 6 Α 7 Did you speak with any doctors in Lake or Trumbull Counties about prescribing practices in those counties? 9 10 Α No, sir. Did you do any investigation of what the medical 11 12 standard of care was in those counties for 13 prescribing opioid medications? Α No, sir, but I don't understand why the standard of 14 15 care would be different in Lake and Cook County 16 than the rest of the country, so I assume it would be the same standard of care, but I did not do an 17 18 analysis of that, sir. Are you aware, then, that throughout the country, 19 20 including in Ohio, and specifically Lake and Trumbull County, there was an increase in 2.1 prescribing of prescription opioids --22 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. GISLESON: 24 25 -- over time?

Page 449 Yes, sir. 1 2. Is it your view that prescribers exercise their own professional judgment in deciding whether or not to prescribe an opioid medication? 4 It's my understanding, but it's also my 5 Α understanding that prescribers engage in diversion 6 7 as well. Did you report any prescribers in this case to the 8 0 Ohio board of medicine? 9 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, sir, I didn't have access to identifiable 11 Α 12 information, but if that information becomes 13 available and it would be my responsibility to report those practitioners to the medical board. 14 15 BY MR. GISLESON: Did the NABP at any point while you were executive 16 17 director ever provide quidance to the Ohio Board of Pharmacy on when a pharmacy should entirely refuse 18 to fill a particular prescriber's prescriptions for 19 20 opioid medications? The quidance we talked about earlier with the model 2.1 A 22 act and the ability of the pharmacist to exercise 23 their independent judgment. And once that judgment was made such as not to fill prescriptions, that 24 25 there be supporting data to affirm that and data

Page 450 available to the pharmacist to make that decision 1 2 the guidance was yes, in that regard. How many prescribers in your view should Rite Aid 3 0 have blocked from having their prescriptions filled 4 5 at Rite Aid pharmacists in Lake and Trumbull Counties? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Every prescriber that Rite Aid identified was 8 A 9 issues prescriptions for nonlegitimate purpose 10 based upon the data available to the corporation 11 and the input from the pharmacist, every one of 12 those prescribers should have been blocked by Rite 13 Aid. BY MR. GISLESON: 14 15 And it's your view -- strike that. 16 Is it your view that once a prescriber in Lake 17 or Trumbull County issued one opioid medication prescription without a legitimate medical purpose, 18 then that means that all of that prescriber's 19 20 opioid prescriptions are invalid and illegitimate? No, sir. 2.1 A 22 Do you agree that a prescriber can write some prescriptions without a legitimate medical purpose, 23 while at the same time writing other prescriptions 24 25 that do have a legitimate medical purpose?

Page 451 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 I agree that that could occur, but it doesn't make any sense to me, sir. So why a physician or prescriber would want to write prescriptions for a 4 5 nonlegitimate purpose jeopardize their license and jeopardize that patient's life. So yes, it can 6 7 But there's no logical speculation as to why it should happen. BY MR. GISLESON: 9 10 Can you identify any prescriber in Lake or Trumbull Q County who intentionally issued opioid 11 12 prescriptions knowing that they lacked a legitimate 13 medical purpose? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 Α Again, absent the individual data, I cannot do 16 that, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 17 Did you identify any guidance that the NABP issued 18 0 to any state board of pharmacy identifying a 19 20 formula or methodology to determine how many red flag prescriptions will result in diverted opioid 2.1 medications? 22 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. The only guidance that we provided, sir, was 24 25 information from the DEA that said that the more

Page 452 red flags a prescription has and based upon the 1 2. individual red flag, then the potential or possibility of diversion is related to that and it 3 could increase exponentially. 4 BY MR. GISLESON: 5 Are you aware of any formula or methodology used in 6 7 the pharmacy industry or practice that allows a determination of the number of diverted 8 9 prescriptions based on the number red flagged 10 prescriptions? Yes, sir. 11 A What's that? 12 13 Α I can't remember the exact time, but there was an emergency room physician in Ohio that developed a 14 15 program called NARxCHECK. NAPB purchased NARxCHECK, and what does NARxCHECK does, it looks 16 17 at the red flags of a patient and prescriber, such 18 as how many pharmacies that patient has visited, how many prescribers the MMEs of controlled 19 20 substances, and generates a score for that patient very similar to what the score would be as a credit 2.1 22 score. 23 And the higher the score, the more potential 24 for diversion that would occur, and that program is 25 available to any pharmacy and any pharmacist.

Page 453 in fact, the defendants -- some of the defendants 1 2. in this case actually use NARXCHECK as an algorithm to help detect red flags and help detect diversion as well. 4 Any other formulas or methodologies you can 5 Q identify? 6 7 Not specifically beyond NARxCHECK, sir. Α Did you do any investigation, whether pharmacies Q who the counties didn't sue, were filling 9 10 prescriptions for opioid medications without a 11 legitimate medical purpose? 12 The scope of the lawsuit was outside of my Α 13 expertise. I was simply asked to look at corresponding responsibility red flags. How the 14 15 lawyers handled that and proceeded, I had no 16 information, access, or input into that, sir. 17 Did you have any understanding as to how many opioid pills pharmacies other than the chain 18 pharmacies in this case dispensed between 2006 and 19 20 2020? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 In Ohio or nationwide? The answer --22 23 BY MR. GISLESON: I'm sorry, Lake and Trumbull Counties. 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 454 No, sir. 1 2. BY MR. GISLESON: Do you know whether any opioid medications were 3 0 illegally being sold in Lake and Trumbull Counties? 4 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 5 My scope was to look at the red flags corresponding 6 7 responsibility. I did not look at that factor, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 9 10 Now, you say the dispensing data should have been Q reviewed by each chain pharmacy to identify 11 12 patterns of diversion. Did you identify patterns 13 of diversion in this case based on your review of the aggregate dispensing data? 14 15 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 16 I identified red flags that indicated the potential A 17 for diversion based on the aggregate data, sir. 18 0 Right. But you reviewed dispensing data. Based on your review of that dispensing data, did you 19 20 identify any patterns of diversion? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 For the sample of dispensing data provided to me by 22 23 each of the defendants, yes. BY MR. GISLESON: 24 25 What was the pattern?

Page 455

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A There were different patterns that existed. They were patients that were receiving duplicative therapy or combinations. There were patients receiving the same medications, pattern prescribing. So in the limited sample, I was able to identify those red flags and those patterns.

BY MR. GISLESON:

2.1

So in your view, once a pharmacy identifies what it considers to be a pattern of diversion for a particular patient or a particular prescriber, the pharmacist then should refuse to fill a prescription presented by a patient?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

It's my opinion, sir, that once the pharmacist identifies a red flag and a pattern of red flags, it's the pharmacist's responsibility to resolve those red flags. If they cannot resolve those red flags, and they understand that diversion is occurring, then until that matter is addressed by either reporting that prescriber to the medical board and DEA, or alerting local authorities that the patient is diverting medications and having them investigate, then the pharmacist should not fill prescriptions from that prescriber, nor

Page 456 dispense controlled substances to that patient. 1 2. BY MR. GISLESON: And exercising a pharmacist's corresponding 3 0 responsibility, is it your view that a pharmacist 4 5 should refuse to fill a prescription solely because the pharmacy identified a potential pattern of 6 diversion associated with either the patient or the 7 prescriber? 8 Until the pharmacist has resolved what those issues 9 Α 10 were for the red flags and is assured that the patient is not abusing or diverting those 11 12 medications, which then goes outside of the system 13 and kills people, until that's resolved, the answer is yes, sir. 14 15 So in your view, then, a pharmacist upon Q receiving information from the pharmacy about a 16 17 potential pattern of diversion can include that information among the mix of facts and 18 circumstances on which the pharmacist relies? 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. 2.1 A BY MR. GISLESON: 22 And in your view, depending on the pharmacist's 23 0 exercised professional judgment, it still may be 24 25 appropriate to fill that prescription for a

Page 457 particular patient, true? 1 2 In some cases, sir. Yes? 0 Yes, in some cases. 4 Α Do you believe that the DEA could identify patterns 5 Q of diversion from OARRS data? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I can't speak for the DEA, but I can tell you that 8 A I've identified patterns of diversion from the 9 10 OARRS data and other PDMP programs. BY MR. GISLESON: 11 12 You refer in your report to Rite Aid's 2009 13 settlement with the DEA. Did you actually read that DEA settlement agreement? 14 15 Again, just so we're on the same page, is there a A 16 specific page in my report? I just want to make 17 sure I'm understanding you correctly. 55 to 56. 18 Q Thank you, sir. Are you referring to the bottom of 19 Α 20 page 56, stepping into 2009? That sounds right. 2.1 Q Yes, sir, I did review that. 22 Α Okay. So that you knew and you know that that 23 Q settlement agreement did not involve the State of 24 25 Ohio, correct?

Page 458 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 I don't recall, but I would say until I have a chance to review that, I can't say definitively. 3 read it, reviewed it, but I can't recall all the 4 5 facts, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 6 7 Do you know who Janet Hart is? Yes, I do, sir. Α What role does she have at Rite Aid? 9 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I know that she's involved in compliance or 11 12 operations and that she was one of the witnesses 13 deposed in this matter. BY MR. GISLESON: 14 15 Was she ever the -- did she ever -- strike that. 16 Did she ever have any -- strike that. Did Janet Hart ever have a role in the 17 Pennsylvania Board of Pharmacy? 18 Yes, sir. 19 A 20 What was her role? Q As various times she served as member and at 2.1 A certain points she was actually president of the 22 Pennsylvania board. 23 Did you ever discuss with her Rite Aid's practices 24 25 for dispensing opioid pain medications?

Page 459 Α 1 Yes. 2. MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. GISLESON: 3 Did you ever tell Janet Hart, whether in writing or 4 5 orally in a conversation, that Rite Aid's 6 pharmacists had to document the resolution of red 7 flags for controlled substance prescriptions? As part of a conversation involving Rite Aid's A 9 practices, yes. 10 When? Q When Rite Aid was instructed by -- or taken to task 11 12 by the boards of pharmacy for the red, white, or 13 15-minute rules that created significant controversy, and discussions with Janet Hart and 14 15 others from Rite Aid, the whole question of how 16 long it takes to fill a controlled substance, how 17 the pharmacists were being unduly pressured to respond to those metrics, and how it was important 18 that the pharmacist document those situations and 19 20 have the time to document it was part of that discussion, sir. 2.1 22 Were those discussions in writing in any way? They were verbal, but I believe if you go back and 23 A check the minutes of the boards that took action 24 25 against Rite Aid or raised a complaint, that Janet

Page 460 1 Hart and others from Rite Aid spoke to that. And I know for a fact that the boards of 2 pharmacy raised those various issues in those 3 public discussions and recorded meetings. 5 0 And the issue was the amount of time -- strike 6 that. 7 The issue was any time guidelines or requirements for filling a prescription? 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. There were several issues, corporate pressure on 10 Α pharmacists to fill those prescriptions in an 11 12 amount of time, not having enough time to perform 13 the due diligence, not documenting what was occurring and pharmacists feeling that because of 14 15 that, they were dispensing prescriptions they 16 shouldn't dispense, but if they didn't dispense 17 them, that they would be fired by the corporation. BY MR. GISLESON: 18 Did you speak with any Rite Aid pharmacists to 19 20 express the view that they might be fired if they didn't dispense a controlled substance? 2.1 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 22 23 Α Yes, sir. BY MR. GISLESON: 24 25 Do you know the names?

Page 461 No, sir. 1 2. So you would expect Janet Hart, then, to know what guidance the NABP was providing to state boards of pharmacy concerning whether it was necessary to 4 document the resolution of red flags? 5 6 Α I would expect that Janet Hart, because she's a 7 very knowledgeable person, would know in general what NABP's recommendations were. But she would be 9 looking at Pennsylvania and incorporating NABP, but 10 I would not expect her to have the same knowledge 11 that I do or somebody that was a staff person or 12 member of the board of directors of NABP to have, 13 sir. Did you at any point tell the Pennsylvania Board of 14 15 Pharmacy that Janet Hart should not be on the board 16 of pharmacy or its president? 17 Α NABP would never do that, sir, and I would never do 18 that personally, so the answer is no. Do you believe that Janet Hart gave any 19 20 instructions to Rite Aid pharmacists to fill prescriptions for opioid pain medications even if 2.1 22 they lacked a legitimate medical purpose? 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 24 I would have no way to answer that question, sir. 25 I don't know what Janet Hart said to pharmacists

Page 462 and Rite Aid, or what she would be instructed to 1 2. say to pharmacists in her role. BY MR. GISLESON: 3 Was there anyone else at Rite Aid with whom you had 4 a discussion whether Rite Aid pharmacists had to 5 6 document resolution of red flags? Former employee of Rite Aid, Michael Podgurski. 7 A What position did he have? Q I believe he was at one time, Janet Hart's boss. 9 Α What was that discussion? 10 Q Same discussion as with Janet Hart. 11 A Anything different or in addition? 12 13 A I think there was pretty extensive discussion and pretty significant. 14 When did that discussion secure? 15 Q 16 Again, right after Rite Aid was taken to task by A 17 the state boards of pharmacy for its imposition of metrics to fill prescriptions in a certain amount 18 of time, sir. 19 20 Did you do any analysis of Rite Aid's staffing at Q its pharmacies in Lake or Trumbull Counties? 2.1 No, sir. 22 Α Did you do an analysis of staffing at any other 23 24 chain pharmacy in Lake or Trumbull County to 25 determine whether that staffing was adequate?

Page 463 No, sir. 1 2. Did you do any analysis for any chain pharmacy in this case to determine whether any time limits or time quarantees relating to filling opioid 4 prescription medications interfered with their 5 exercise of corresponding responsibility? 6 7 I'm sorry. Did you say other pharmacies outside of A Rite Aid? 9 Any pharmacies. Any of the chain pharmacies in 10 this case. Did you do any analysis to determine 11 whether any time limits or time quarantees relating 12 to filling opioid medications interfered with their 13 exercise of corresponding responsibility? The analysis was information that NABP and I Α 14 15 received firsthand from pharmacists in those 16 chains, information from the American Pharmacists 17 Association, which is included in my report, and then the resolution passed by the members of NABP 18 that asked NABP to look at the situation because of 19 20 reports state boards of pharmacy were hearing that those metrics were interfering with the 2.1 pharmacists' ability to conduct their due 22 23 diligence. Can you identify any prescription listed among your 24 25 flagged prescriptions for which a pharmacist failed

Page 464 1 to clear a red flag because that pharmacist was 2 under time pressure? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α I can't identify individual prescriptions but, 5 again, my report talks about the impact that had based on the aggregate data. 6 7 BY MR. GISLESON: Is it true that when the Ohio Board of Pharmacy 8 Q does an inspection of a pharmacy in Lake or Trumbull County, that one of the issues that's 10 evaluated is staffing levels? 11 12 I don't know if that's restricted to just Lake and Trumbull County, sir. I think it's a metric that 13 they look at all pharmacies. 14 15 All pharmacies throughout Ohio? Q I believe so, sir. 16 A 17 Do you also understand that the Ohio Board of 18 Pharmacy, when doing an inspection, also evaluates whether improper dispensing occurred? 19 20 I'm not specifically aware, but believe that would Α be one of the tenets, again, that the board of 2.1 pharmacy would look at. 22 Does the board of pharmacy also look at whether 23 0 pharmacists for a particular pharmacy have access 24 25 to OARRS to request reports when needed?

Page 465

- A I believe in 2011 and then in 2015, when OARRS became mandatory first for certain drugs, and then for certain drugs with red flags, and then for certain drugs identified by the board of pharmacy, since that was a mandate and a requirement that the Ohio Board of Pharmacy would have looked for that, sir.
- Q When was the first time that NABP advised the Ohio Board of Pharmacy that it should be mandatory for pharmacists in Ohio to check OARRS with respect to every single prescription for opioid medications that are presented to the pharmacist?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A NABP made that recommendation to all states beyond
Ohio that the PDMP should be utilized for all
controlled substances prior to dispensing, and that
prescribers should also be mandated to check the
PDMP. And that might have been right at the
beginning of PDMP's -- when they were first
initiated, but I can't recall the specific dates,
sir.

BY MR. GISLESON:

2.

2.1

- Q So was that sometime around 2011?
- A Again, it was early on in the PDMPs. I'm not sure if it was 2010, 2011 or so.

Page 466 Did Ohio follow the recommendation that the NABP 1 2. made? I believe in 2011 they mandated it for 3 A prescriptions with red flags, and then I believe in 4 2015 they mandated it for all drugs designated by 5 Ohio. 6 7 Were the pharmacies in Lake and Trumbull County and the rest of Ohio required to comply with the requirements of the Ohio Board of Pharmacy and Ohio 9 10 law or with NABP's views as to how things should 11 be? 12 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 13 Α Of course, only Ohio law. NABP is not a government agency and has no authority over pharmacists, 14 15 pharmacies, or state boards of pharmacy. 16 MR. GISLESON: Those are the questions I have. 17 Thank you, Mr. Catizone. Josh? 18 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir. MR. KOBRIN: Let's go off the record real 19 20 quick. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the record at 2.1 22 10:32 a.m. (A recess was taken.) 23 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is Media Number 3 in 24 25 the deposition of Carmen Catizone. Today is

Page 467 June 16th, 2021. We're going back on the record at 1 2 10:48 a.m. CROSS-EXAMINATION 3 QUESTIONS BY JOSHUA KOBRIN: 4 5 Q Hi, Mr. Catizone. My name is Josh Kobrin, I represent Giant Eagle. We're going to primarily be 6 7 looking at your May 19, 2021, supplemental report. I'll probably refer to that as just the report. 8 9 Does that sound all right to you? 10 Α Yes, sir. Yesterday during your deposition with Mr. Bush, he 11 12 asked you some questions about doctor shopping. 13 Do you remember that? Yes, sir. 14 Α 15 And you talked about why you chose two or more Q 16 prescribers as your metric for doctor shopping. Do you remember that? 17 18 Α Yes, sir. And you said that was your decision to measure 19 20 doctor shopping as overlapping days of supply written by two or more prescribers, correct? 2.1 Yes, sir. 22 Α And I believe part of the reason for that decision 23 0 24 was as you stated, quote/unquote, because patients 25 generally use one physician; is that correct?

Page 468 The data indicated that, sir. 1 2 Did the data -- your reason for selecting that metric was the data indicated that patients generally use one physician? 4 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 6 Α Yes. 7 BY MR. KOBRIN: And your concern here, and this is kind of also Q from your report, as you explained in your report, 9 10 is that: "A patient presenting a prescription for a controlled substance" -- and I'm reading from 11 12 your report now on page 35 -- "may be obtaining the 13 same or similar controlled substance from a different prescriber/prescribers, and the patient 14 15 does not make the prescriber aware of the other 16 prescriber." 17 Did I read that correctly? 18 A Yes, sir. So given this concern, does the doctor shopping 19 20 metric that you created for your report here, does it include -- or does it, rather, does it flag 2.1 22 prescribers who work together in the same medical 23 practice? 24 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 25 If there's continuity of care and that is

Page 469 documented as the red flag that that physician is 1 2 covering for the other prescriber, then it would not be a red flag, but the documentation would 3 verify that, sir. 4 BY MR. KOBRIN: 5 Yeah. I'm just wondering, your red flags here, the 6 number of red flags here on page 35, does that 7 include doctors who are working together in the 8 same medical practice? 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. That was the analysis done by Mr. McCann. I can't 11 12 answer that, sir. 13 BY MR. KOBRIN: Was that intended to include doctors who were 14 15 working together in the same medical practice? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 16 17 Again, I did not run the numbers or the 18 prescriptions, so I can't answer that, sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: 19 20 You instructed Mr. McCann on how to identify these Q prescriptions, didn't you? 2.1 I identified the red flags, sir, and asked him to 22 Α 23 run the numbers based upon the red flags. And you wrote this, right? "The data reveals as 24 25 follows regarding patient was dispensed opioid

Page 470 prescriptions in overlapping days prescribed and 1 2 were written by two or more prescribers." Yes, sir. 3 A You wrote that, right? 4 5 Α Yes, sir. Is that intended to capture doctors who are working 6 7 together in the same medical practice? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 8 It was intended to identify whether or not there 9 Α 10 were two different prescribers writing for that that would create duplicative therapy or therapy 11 12 that was unknown to the other prescriber. 13 So if the best way to analyze the data was simply to include that, I don't know. 14 15 decision was Mr. McCann's decision. BY MR. KOBRIN: 16 17 So you don't know one way or the other whether that includes doctors who where partnered in a medical 18 practice together? 19 20 Α Correct. You don't know one way or the other whether that 2.1 Q includes a physician prescribing for one patient 22 and a physician's assistant also prescribing for 23 the same patient in collaboration with the 24 25 physician?

Page 471 I don't know that, but the way the red flag was set 1 2. up, there would be no reason for those two to prescribe duplicative therapy that this would 3 identify as well. 4 5 Q I think you talked about yesterday that there are situations in which a doctor or practice might 6 7 change a therapy, you might have a therapy that's overlapping because, one is short-acting and one is 8 long-acting but there are different situations 9 10 where there might be, correct, duplicative 11 therapies? Not so much duplicative, but change in therapy, and 12 13 that change would be documented in the pharmacists notes and patient record. 14 15 Would those be flagged in this flag Number 2, Q doctor shopping in your report? 16 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Again, I can't answer that. I did not analyze the 18 Α data, sir. 19 20 BY MR. KOBRIN: So you just -- what did you tell Mr. McCann to do 2.1 for this? 22 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I identified the red flags based upon my pharmacy 24 25 knowledge and experience and asked Mr. McCann to

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Page 472
            identify the prescriptions and total those
 1
 2
           prescriptions based upon the description I gave of
            those red flags.
 3
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
 4
           And for this red flag metric you just said, any two
 5
      Q
           prescribers?
 6
           It was the information --
 7
      A
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
 9
      Α
            -- that's presented there in the report, sir, about
10
            different prescribers.
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
11
12
           That's what you gave him?
13
      A
           Yes.
           That one sentence, the data reveals as follows?
14
15
      Α
           Yes, sir.
16
           Did you give him that in a written form?
      Q
17
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
            It was part of my draft report.
18
      A
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
19
20
            So you gave him a draft report and then he gave you
2.1
            the numbers to fill in in the chart here?
22
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
            That was the first report.
23
      A
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
24
25
            Is that correct?
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Page 473 That was the first report, for that first report, 1 2 that was one of the exhibits. The document that you gave to Mr. McCann was one of 3 Q the exhibits to the first report? 4 5 A No, no. 6 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 7 The first report. BY MR. KOBRIN: Right. So before he gave you the numbers is what 9 10 I'm talking about. Before you came out and you had served any report, what did you give to Mr. McCann? 11 12 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 13 Mr. McCann received the draft report of what my red Α flags were and how I described those red flags, 14 15 sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: 16 17 Have you produced that draft report that you gave to Mr. McCann, Dr. McCann? 18 19 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 20 MR. KOBRIN: Have you produced that, Mike? MR. ELSNER: That's actually not correct. He 2.1 22 wasn't given a draft report. He was given the clauses --23 MR. KOBRIN: I don't want you testifying right 24 25 We don't have time for that right now.

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Page 474
           can clarify that later.
1
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
 2
           The testimony is that he was going to draft a
 3
      0
           report. Is that correct, Mr. Catizone?
 4
 5
           No, I don't recall --
      Α
           What did you give Dr. McCann?
 6
      0
 7
           I don't recall, sir.
      Α
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
8
9
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
           You don't recall.
10
                Did you give him anything in writing to
11
12
           explain your flags?
13
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
           I don't recall.
      A
14
15
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
16
           You don't recall.
17
               How did he know what to do to run these
18
           algorithms to flag the proper prescriptions that
19
           you aimed to identify?
               MR. ELSNER: Objection.
20
           I don't recall, sir.
21
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
22
           You don't recall what you gave him, how you
2.3
      Q
           instructed him?
24
25
      Α
           No, sir.
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Page 475 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 BY MR. KOBRIN: Okay. Did you do any research on how researchers 3 or academics who study pharmacy science and health 4 administration have defined doctor shopping? 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 6 7 My research would be the references included in the report and then my involvement in cases and work with the DEA, sir. 9 BY MR. KOBRIN: 10 I think you already testified that you didn't do 11 12 any research on how boards of pharmacy measure doctor shopping, correct? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 Α No, sir. I didn't. I didn't testify --16 BY MR. KOBRIN: 17 Yesterday when -- yesterday when Mr. Bush was asking you questions, I believe you said you were 18 unaware of the Ohio board of pharmacies doctor 19 20 shopping metric; is that correct? That specific metric, sir, yes. 2.1 Α In writing this report, then, did you review any 22 Q 23 documents that defined doctor shopping? Yes, sir. 24 Α 25 And how did they define doctor shopping?

Page 476 Those documents are included in my references and 1 2. they defined them as I've indicated my opinion, that's my interpretation and analysis of what 3 doctor shopping is, sir. 4 5 Q So you stand by the -- strike that. 6 You rely on the documents stated in your 7 report for their definition of doctor shopping rather than the Ohio Board of Pharmacy's definition 8 9 of doctor shopping that you were shown yesterday, 10 correct? I relied on that information and my experience and 11 Α 12 the fact that the actual definition of doctor 13 shopping by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy is more than one practitioner, so the Ohio Board of Pharmacy's 14 15 definition is more stringent than my definition, 16 sir. 17 I'm not sure where that's coming from but we can talk about that later if there's time. 18 interested as to where you found that. 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. KOBRIN: 2.1 22 So you said you did review some documents that 23 defined doctor shopping. Let's flip to page 20 of 24 your report real quick. Section B of your 25 "Controlled Substances," sorry, just before

Page 477 Section 3, the paragraph just above it, the end of 1 2 that paragraph. Do you see where it says -- I'm going to read from your report: "As rates of PDMP 3 participation increased, measures of doctor 4 shopping and prescribing of certain controlled 5 substances declined. The data suggests that PDMP 6 7 utilization helps to promote medically warranted prescribing and dispensing and assists in detecting 8 possible controlled substance misuse and 9 diversion." 10 Did I read that right? 11 Yes, sir. 12 Α 13 And that's what you wrote in your report, correct? 0 Yes, sir. 14 A 15 When you say, quote/unquote, measures of doctor Q 16 shopping, what measures of doctor shopping are you 17 referencing? The actual incidence of doctor shopping that would 18 Α be recorded in the PDMP, sir. 19 20 Well, what's the metric for doctor shopping in the Q PDMP? 2.1 22 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. KOBRIN: 23 What's the measure? 24 25 Α Sure.

Page 478

In the 30-some cases that I've reviewed or served as an expert witness, in all those cases I've accessed the PDMP data. And when you analyze the PDMP data, you look at the number of prescribers and you look at where those prescribers are based, whether they're in the same practice or not, whether or not the patient is going to different practitioners, and so you formulate a metric based upon the PDMP data of how many prescribers that patient is seeing for those medications. That's the metrics in the analysis, sir.

- Q What is doctor shopping based on that analysis?
- A Based upon the Ohio Practice Act Rules, it's more than one prescriber prescribing the same controlled substances or controlled substances, and my interpretation that was just written in the report is what I view as the red flags.
- Q Okay. So when you run the report, you didn't actually cite anything -- you didn't actually cite anything in the Ohio practice rules. You cited an article by the PDMP Center for Excellence article, mandating PDMP participation by medical providers.

  Do you see that in Footnote 18?
- A What page, sir?

2.1

Page 479 It's the footnote that follows right after the 1 2 sentence I just read, footnote 18 at the bottom of 3 page 20. Oh, okay, yes, sir. 4 Α You didn't say cite any Ohio practice rules that 5 Q you allege right now, that you relied upon. 6 7 actually cite this from the article. Do you know what that article is? 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α The article that's cited, sir? BY MR. KOBRIN: 11 12 Yes. Q 13 Yes, I do. Α Is that one of the articles you relied on to 14 15 understand how practitioners and others within the 16 industry measure doctor shopping? 17 Α The article didn't -- the article just spoke about doctor shopping and the information contained in my 18 report. The information from the Ohio medical 19 20 board came, because yesterday, Mr. Bush represented that the standard in Ohio was five or more based on 2.1 22 OARRS reports. And yesterday evening, I actually 23 reviewed the Ohio practice act and regulations and found out that that was not the case. That the 24 25 Ohio board, so therefore, would not have been a

Page 480 reference in my report because that information 1 was --2 (Simultaneous conversation.) 3 Α -- yesterday. 4 5 MR. KOBRIN: Move to strike. BY MR. KOBRIN: 6 7 Is this article what you're relying on for your statement that: "As rates of PDMP participation 9 increased, measures of doctor shopping and 10 controlled substances declined"? 11 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 12 BY MR. KOBRIN: 13 What did you rely on to know that fact? 0 Sure. 14 Α 15 That was one of the sources. The other sources was information from the PDMP programs. 16 17 NABP operates a steering committee for all of the 18 PDMP programs. And that steering committee meets with the administrators of all the PDMP programs 19 20 and all the states once a year. And at that meeting, that discussion occurred. 2.1 22 And people reported that when they utilized 23 PDMP, and provided information on doctor shopping to pharmacists and prescribers, or pharmacists and 24 25 prescribers accessed, and saw doctor shopping, that

Page 481 helped decrease the incidence of that. 1 2 But you don't know how those people were measuring doctor shopping or the incidence of doctor shopping, do you? 4 They were using similar standards, looking at the 5 Α number of prescribers that I did in my analysis of 6 7 this situation. Did that article, Footnote 18, use a similar 9 standard as you did in your analysis of this situation? 10 Again, it was one of the resources that I utilized 11 12 and provided more background information. But my 13 actual analysis came based upon actual PDMP reports that I reviewed and interactions with the PDMP 14 15 administrators across the country. I'm asking you if the article you cited in support 16 Q of the statement I read used similar standards as 17 18 you in measuring doctor shopping. I don't recall the specifics of the article. 19 20 was one of the sources I used, sir. All right. And that's the only article that you 2.1 22 cite for that statement, correct? 23 MR. ELSNER: Objection. It's for that statement, but there are other 24 25 articles cited in the document that reference how

Page 482 valuable PDMP is and how they have an impact on the 1 2 red flags. BY MR. KOBRIN: 3 Did you cite any other articles in your report that 4 measured doctor shopping --5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 6 7 BY MR. KOBRIN: -- or that you relied on for their measure of 8 9 doctor shopping? 10 MR. ELSNER: Same objection. I would have to go through the report and check to 11 12 make sure. At this point, I can't say 13 definitively, but I'm sure that there were probably other references that I used besides my experience, 14 15 sir. 16 BY MR. KOBRIN: 17 Right now that's the only one that you cited that we've found, correct? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 19 20 Α That's the only one on that page. I said there are probably others in the report, sir. 2.1 BY MR. KOBRIN: 22 23 Okay. That's the only one that you cite here, correct? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 483 Yes, sir. Again, for the -- that's the only one on 1 2 this page, but there are probably other sources of references throughout the document. 3 BY MR. KOBRIN: 4 5 Q Do you remember yesterday, Mr. Bush also asked you several questions about drug cocktails? 6 7 I remember some of the discussions, sir, yes. A The measure you applied for the opioid and 8 Q 9 benzodiazepine drug cocktail in Number 5, this is 10 on page 39 of your report, that flagged prescriptions if they were dispensed within 30 days 11 12 of one another, correct? 13 Sorry, what page was that, sir? Α 39. 14 Q 15 Okay. And what section? 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 17 BY MR. KOBRIN: "Section 5, Drug Cocktail, an opioid and 18 benzodiazepine." 19 20 I'll just repeat my question for clarity. The measure you applied for the opioid and 2.1 benzodiazepine drug cocktail at Number 5, that 22 23 measure flagged prescriptions if they were dispensed within 30 days of one another, correct? 24 25 Is that reference to page 40?

Page 484 I'm on page 39. Are you in your supplemental 1 2 report? Yes. 3 A May of 2021? 4 But the actual data and table for that appears on 5 Α page 40. It says: "An opioid and a benzodiazepine 6 7 were dispensed to a patient within 30 days of one another." Is that the reference. 9 10 I'm referring to that section, which starts Q 11 on page 39, but we can look at page 40 if you want. I was just trying to find out where you were, sir. 12 Α 13 0 That's fair. So that flagged prescriptions if they were 14 15 dispensed within 30 days of one another, correct? 16 Yes, sir. A 17 On what basis did you pick 30 days? Based upon, again, my review of prior prescription 18 Α programs, profiles, PDMPs within that time period. 19 20 It would create that problem noted on page 39, that the combination of an opioid and a benzodiazepine 2.1 22 would create an increased risk of respiratory depression because those two drugs would still have 23 24 the potential to interact during that time frame, 25 sir.

Page 485 Did you use 30 days for all the defendants? 1 2 Α Yes, sir. Is that because you wanted to measure dispensing 3 Q consistently across all the defendants? 4 5 Α Yes, sir. Consistency is important, especially when you are 6 comparing red flags in a chart like you do on 7 page 40, correct? 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α Yes, sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: 11 You don't want to measure dispensing within 20 days 12 13 for one defendant, 30 days for another, do you? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 Α No, sir. 16 BY MR. KOBRIN: 17 You wouldn't want to do that. So is it your opinion that your metric applied 18 consistently across the data sets provided by all 19 20 the defendants? It would be my testimony that Mr. McCann applied 21 Α 22 that across all the data sets consistently, yes, 23 sir. And that's your opinion, right, that this metric is 24 25 being applied consistently across CVS, Walgreens,

Page 486 Walmart, Giant Eagle, HPC, and Rite Aid, correct? 1 2 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Yes, sir. 3 A BY MR. KOBRIN: 4 And it's your opinion that if we picked a month 5 Q during the discovery period, January of 2008, the 6 metric that's being used in this test, this drug 7 cocktail test, that would apply consistently to all 8 defendants in that month, correct? 9 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I can respond again to the prior question. 11 A would be my expectation and my instruction that it 12 13 should be applied consistently, whether it's one month or whether it's the total data set, sir. 14 15 BY MR. KOBRIN: Same for the holy trinity red flag at Number 4 on 16 17 page 37. That would also apply consistently across all defendants? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 19 20 All of the data in the report should be applied Α consistently, sir. 2.1 BY MR. KOBRIN: 22 It's an apples-to-apples comparison between one 23 Q defendant pharmacy and another defendant pharmacy, 24 25 correct?

Page 487 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 1 2 Yes, sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: All right. Near the top of page 47 of your report, 4 Q 5 you describe the way you measured same hour prescribing. 6 7 Do you see that? Yes, sir. 8 A 9 According to your report you wanted this to flag a 10 prescription when: "An opioid was dispensed to at 11 least three different patients within an hour, and 12 the opioid prescriptions were for the same base 13 drug, strength, and dosage form, and were written by the same prescriber." 14 15 Did I read that correctly? 16 Yes, sir. A 17 So the reason you named this flag same hour prescribing, is just that its defining feature, 18 right? These scripts had to be dispensed to these 19 20 three patients within an hour of each other, right? That was one of the defining factors, sir. The 2.1 A 22 other was the fact that they would be the same 23 medications, dosages, strengths, and quantities. Did you name this or is that Dr. McCann? Did you 24 25 name it "same hour prescribing"?

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Page 488
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
 1
 2
            I'm sorry. I didn't understand the question.
           apologize.
 3
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
 4
           Did you name this, this metric, same hour
 5
      Q
           prescribing there, did you name it that?
 6
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
 7
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
 8
           The other one is same day prescribing and this one,
 9
10
            same hour prescribing. Did you name it same hour
           prescribing?
11
12
           When the data came back in the data run, yes, I did
13
           name it that within -- because that's what the data
14
           set showed when they ran the data, so I entitled
15
           that as well.
16
           Did you instruct Dr. McCann on this data run or did
      Q
17
           he do this and give you the data and tell you what
           he found?
18
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
19
20
           Mr. McCann ran the data.
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
2.1
           You didn't give him any instruction on this one?
22
           I think --
23
      Α
                MR. ELSNER: Objection.
24
25
            I'm sorry.
      A
```

Page 489 BY MR. KOBRIN: 1 2. Your answer? I said, no, sir. A What expertise does Dr. McCann have to decide that 4 any dispensing within an hour is relevant at all to 5 this case? 6 7 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I think Mr. McCann's expertise is in analysis. And 8 A performing that analysis if other numbers looked 9 10 interesting or significant to what the original question was, Dr. McCann would present those to me. 11 12 And I would make a determination of whether or not 13 that information was useful or not, sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: 14 15 So Dr. McCann formulated this red flag, correct? Q 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. He just simply used the red flag that I gave 17 Α him and did additional analysis to see if there was 18 other data points or data information that would be 19 20 useful to me. BY MR. KOBRIN: 2.1 What red flag did you give him that led him to do 22 Q 23 this analysis? The red flag was the pattern prescribing that 24 25 appears on page 46 that said, look for patients

Page 490 1 that receive the same medications from the same prescribers in the same quantity strengths and 2 such. That was the instruction given to him. 3 And he added this one-hour element; is that 5 correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 6 7 In analyzing the data, this information came up, that he asked to me whether it was significant or 8 not, and it helped to clarify or it helped to further explain how prevalent and how significant 10 this red flag was. 11 12 So I said, "Yes, that would be interesting 13 data. BY MR. KOBRIN: 14 15 How did he ask you? Is this a phone conversation, 16 an email, a document he sent you? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. The information came to me provided through 18 Α counsel, so I don't know how that information was 19 20 provided. BY MR. KOBRIN: 2.1 But you knew that information was from Dr. McCann? 22 23 Α Yes. And was that in written form? 24 25 Again, the information was provided to me by

Page 491 counsel, so I don't know how it --1 2 In written form? It was provided to you in written form? MR. ELSNER: Objection. Do not discuss how --4 5 MR. KOBRIN: If he's relying on this, I think we're going to need to go off the record because 6 7 we're running out of time and I would like Special Master Cohen to make a judgment on this. 8 Could we go off the record? 9 10 MS. FUMERTON: I agree with that. 11 MR. KOBRIN: We can go off the record. 12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record at 13 11:12 a.m. (A recess was taken.) 14 15 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the record at 11:58 a.m. 16 BY MR. KOBRIN: 17 Mr. Catizone, good to see you again. I just want 18 Q to clarify the record from where we left off 19 20 before, if that's okay? Yes, sir. 2.1 A 22 Could you -- thank you. Now I can see you. 23 Just to clarify, your testimony earlier reflected you had some communication with 24 25 Dr. McCann, through attorneys or otherwise, through

Page 492 which you communicated a description of the red 1 2. flag you wanted him to run on the data, correct? Yes, that was a verbal conversation, sir, yes. 3 A And Dr. McCann or his staff, through attorneys or 4 5 otherwise, then provided you with information and data and asked you if it was significant or not, 6 7 and whether it helped clarify or further explain a red flag, correct? 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α No, sir, that's where I made a mistake. If I can 11 explain? 12 BY MR. KOBRIN: 13 0 Please. So in working with legal counsel, I began drafting 14 15 a report which I referred to as a draft report, 16 that's noted in the invoices that we discussed 17 yesterday. Whatever conversations, whatever data 18 analysis was conveyed to Mr. McCann was through legal counsel. I never spoke or interacted with 19 20 him directly beyond that first phone call. Information then from Mr. McCann was inserted 2.1 into my draft report by counsel and I reviewed that 22 23 information through my draft reports, sir. So your understanding was that information was 24 25 inserted from Dr. McCann into your draft report,

Page 493 which you then edited and integrated into your 1 2. draft report? Yes, sir. 3 A And that information, as you previously testified, 4 you understood to be coming directly from 5 Mr. McCann through counsel to you? 6 I didn't know where that came from. I worked 7 Α directly with counsel. Whatever conversations 9 occurred or where it came from, I don't know, 10 except I asked for the analysis of my red flags and 11 that was provided to me back by counsel. 12 You previously testified that that information came 13 from Dr. McCann. Did you have conversations with Dr. McCann about that information? 14 15 No, sir. And in answering your question, I erred Α 16 by focusing on the substance in trying to answer the question you were asking. And I didn't realize 17 that the process was that important to these 18 proceedings. And so, I misspoke or left out the 19 20 detail that all of my connections, all of my conversations were directly with legal counsel, and 2.1 what happened on the other side of that, I have no 22 idea. 23 24 Mr. McCann was never on those calls with you and 25 legal counsel?

Page 494 Just the two calls that I referenced yesterday. 1 2. The first call where I verbally explained what my red flags were, and then a second call after the 3 supplemental data was analyzed. 4 Beyond that, I had no direct contact with 5 Dr. McCann at all, sir. 6 7 Was one of the things that was inserted into your report, these boxes, where it says "Defendant CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, HBC, Rite Aid" across the top? 9 10 Α I'm sorry. Were those inserted into your report? 11 What --12 Α 13 The boxes that you have under each red flag where 0 the first row is "Defendant CVS, Walgreens, 14 15 Walmart, HBC, Rite Aid, " were those boxes inserted 16 into your report? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. The data was inserted there and then I made the 18 A 19 boxes as part of the format, but the data was 20 provided to me. BY MR. KOBRIN: 2.1 22 Q In what format was the data provided? Numbers under the text. 23 Α So when -- there were just numbers, they weren't in 24 25 a box, they weren't in a grid?

Page 495 No, sir. 1 2 And those numbers you understood were communicated by Mr. McCann to counsel to you, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 5 A That was a direct conversation with counsel, so... BY MR. KOBRIN: 6 7 Well, you understood that Dr. McCann was doing the numbers crunching for you, correct? 9 Α That was my understanding, sir. 10 Counsel wasn't doing the number crunching, correct? Q 11 Α I just replied that I understood that it was 12 Dr. McCann running the numbers, sir. 13 0 So any numbers that were inserted into your draft 14 reports were from Dr. McCann or his staff, correct? 15 That would be the assumption, sir. Α 16 Did you ever receive any emails that were forwards Q of emails with Dr. McCann and counsel? 17 18 Α No, sir. Did you ever see any emails through any means 19 20 between Dr. McCann and counsel? No, sir. 2.1 A 22 Did you have any communications on the phone or otherwise with Dr. McCann's staff? 23 24 No, sir, just the two conversations with Dr. McCann 25 that I've already testified to.

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Page 496
           You never communicated directly or indirectly to
 1
 2
           your knowledge with anyone on Dr. McCann's staff?
           I have not, sir. I did not, sir.
 3
      A
           All right.
 4
               MR. KOBRIN: Can we go off the record for a
 5
           moment?
 6
 7
                THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going off record at
            12:03 p.m.
 8
                (A recess was taken.)
 9
10
                THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the
11
            record at 12:10 p.m.
12
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
13
           Mr. Catizone, you worked at a pharmacy, right? I
      Q
           believe you said you worked at Albertsons in
14
15
           Chicago; is that correct?
16
           Osco Drug, sir, yes.
      Α
17
           When you worked there, what dispensing software was
           the pharmacy using?
18
                MR. ELSNER: Objection; asked and answered.
19
20
            I don't recall, sir.
2.1
        BY MR. KOBRIN:
22
      Q
           PDX?
        I don't recall.
23
      A
          You don't recall?
24
25
                Do you know that not all data regarding hour
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Page 497 and minute actions were collected in that system 1 2 you used? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α I don't recall the system, so I can't answer the 4 5 question, sir. BY MR. KOBRIN: 6 7 Do you know generally that not all hour and minute actions -- strike that. 9 Do you know generally that not all actions --10 strike that. Do you know generally that there's not a 11 12 record made of the hour and minute that all actions 13 are taken in pharmacy dispensing systems? Α I know in general that the pharmacy system records 14 15 the actual hour and minutes that a prescription is 16 entered into the system and then also at the point of sale that the hour and minute that that's 17 18 actually transacted is recorded in the system, sir. When did the leading pharmacy dispensing systems in 19 20 the market begin adding the hour and minute to the dispensing point of sale transaction? 2.1 That's outside of my expertise, sir. I'm sorry, I 22 A don't know. 23 Do you know how pharmacy dispensing systems work? 24 0 25 In general, sir, yes. Α

Page 498 You know that at a certain point they did not 1 2. capture that hour and minute for the dispense; is that correct, that that was a recent addition in 3 the past ten years or so to the pharmacy dispensing 4 5 systems? I do know that the pharmacy dispensing systems have 6 Α 7 changed over time and that they went from typewriters to computer systems. But I'm not sure 8 9 when those other changes occurred, sir. 10 Do you know whether they collect an hour and data Q 11 for the time that the sale is done, where the 12 actual tech or pharmacists puts pills in a bottle? 13 MR. ELSNER: Objection. BY MR. KOBRIN: 14 15 Do you know that hour and minute when that's 16 collected? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 18 Α Point of sale is when it's actually rang up, rung up, that is collected. When the technician puts 19 20 the medications in the container, that's -- there's not a time that I'm aware of where that's recorded. 2.1 22 BY MR. KOBRIN: 23 Q So there's not a time stamp to show when the fill is done, pills in bottle? 24 25 I think, sir, I'm being confused the sale. Α

Page 499 the sale transacts that is recorded, but what the 1 2 actual --I understand that. 3 0 I'm talking about the transaction being the 4 5 fill, when the pills are actually put into the bottle. I think you understand, as you've stated, 6 7 that that minute and hour, that is not recorded in the pharmacy dispensing system, correct? Yes, sir. Α 10 If certain hour and minute data was not collected Q for defendants in this case, did you intend for the 11 12 same hour prescribing red flag to capture all 13 prescriptions that were from the prescriber and for the same drug, but for which there was no available 14 15 information about when the opioid was dispensed? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 16 17 First, I'm not sure of the question. But what I expected was data analysis of that particular red 18 19 flag. Beyond that, I can't comment, sir. 20 BY MR. KOBRIN: Well, did you expect it to pull in all situations 2.1 22 in which there was the same drug and the same 23 prescriber but there was no time stamp? 24 What I expected is to have data analysis across all 25 defendants for that particular red flag.

Page 500 I think you earlier said that the same hour issue 1 2 was one of the defining factors of the red flag, correct? 3 Α The primary defining factors were the same drug, 4 same strength, and same dosage. The time that 5 was -- the time could be another more explicit 6 7 determinant of that red flag. Well, that's what distinguished it from the same 8 Q day prescribing, correct, that and the lower number 9 10 of patients, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 11 Again, I'm sorry, sir. What do you mean by 12 13 distinguish --BY MR. KOBRIN: 14 15 Same hour prescribing was one of your flags and 16 same day of prescribing was one of your flags, 17 correct? 18 A Yes, sir. MR. ELSNER: Objection. 19 20 BY MR. KOBRIN: And the main difference between same hour 2.1 prescribing and same day prescribing is that in 22 same hour prescribing, it had to be in the same 23 hour, and it only had to be three patients, 24 25 correct?

Page 501 Correct, sir. 1 Α 2 So you wouldn't have expected that if there were three patients who had the same base drug, strength, and dosage, much like the same day 4 5 prescribing flag, if you have three patients, same 6 drug, strength, and dosage, but there was no time 7 stamp, did you expect that they would get flagged by the same hour prescribing flag --8 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 BY MR. KOBRIN: 11 -- just because there was no time stamp? They would have gotten flagged, sir, in the prior 12 Α 13 data field that was listed above that, sir. They shouldn't be flagged in the same hour 14 Q 15 prescribing sale then, correct? 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 17 BY MR. KOBRIN: 18 0 They had no hour. I think if they weren't part of the data set or 19 20 didn't have the data to enter the data set, then they probably would not be recorded, sir. But I 2.1 22 can't comment, that was Dr. McCann's analysis. 23 Q Well, they shouldn't have been in the same hour prescribing. They should have been in the same day 24 25 prescribing because they would have met that

Page 502 1 requirement, right? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2 That would be my assumption as well, sir. 3 Α BY MR. KOBRIN: 4 5 Turn to page 51 of your report. These bullets on 0 page 51, they list defendant and stakeholder 6 7 policies related to cash payments, right? I'm sorry, sir, my 51 doesn't have any bullet 8 Α 9 points. 10 Sorry. They are not actual bullets, but it's Q Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid. Do you see 11 12 where I'm looking? 13 Α Yes, sir. I want to focus on the NACDS one, if you could. 14 It's the last one on that list of stakeholder 15 policies and it says that -- it states: 16 17 "Enforcement actions were nearly 87 percent of a physician's patients were paid case -- I think it 18 19 means paid -- "cash for their prescriptions and 20 acknowledges that that's a red flag." 21 Do you see that? I see that in the document, sir, yes. 22 Α 2.3 Why is that 87 percent data point informative? Q 24 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 25 Α NACDS put that in there and considered it an

Page 503 important reason or an important red flag. From 1 2 the perspective of a pharmacy and pharmacist, whenever a patient pays something for cash, a 3 prescription or a visit and they have insurance, is 5 a red flag asking the question, why would they not submit this to their insurance, and why are they 6 7 paying out of their pocket. BY MR. KOBRIN: And 87 percent number, that told you something 9 10 about the pharmacy and about the prescriber, 11 correct? 12 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 13 Again, sir, I apologize. I'm not following the Α question. 14 15 BY MR. KOBRIN: These are enforcement actions in which 87 percent 16 0 17 of a physician's patients paid cash for their 18 prescriptions. That tells you about, in this case East Main, which I think is a pharmacy, that 19 there's an enforcement action. It tells you about 20 the physician for whom 87 percent of his patients 2.1 paid cash, right? 22 23 Α Yes, sir. It tells you even if the pharmacy in East Main 24 25 didn't do a ton of business, let's say that they

Page 504 only dispensed a thousand scripts a day. Too many 1 2. of them are paid in cash, right? Would you agree with that? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 5 A No, sir. I don't agree with -- maybe I don't understand the example you're giving. 6 7 BY MR. KOBRIN: 87 percent, that's too high a number for someone to Q be dispensing for one physician's patients in cash, 9 10 right, or for one pharmacy to be dispensing all of 11 a product or all of their controls in cash; is that 12 right? 13 Α NACDS said that. Holiday and East Main said that, so I would say, I would agree with what that is 14 15 saying, sir. That was what I was going to ask. Do you agree 16 Q 17 with that? I think it's fair to say that 87 percent of 18 opioid prescriptions being paid in cash is probably 19 20 indicative of diversion, correct? I would disagree, sir, and say that one 2.1 A 22 prescription could be indicative of diversion. The 23 percentage is not important when it comes to diversion of a prescription and whether or not that 24 25 prescription harms a patient.

Page 505 Well, we would expect to see some cash payments, 1 2. wouldn't we? Yes, sir. But we're talking about whether or not 3 A that cash payment was for a legitimate or not a 4 legitimate prescription. Any prescription that's 5 not legitimate is diversion and that's concerning 6 7 whether it's one or a thousand, sir. Right. But you're using this cash fact or -- as a 8 Q 9 flag, correct? 10 Α As a flag for the pharmacist to conduct due diligence to ascertain whether or not it was for a 11 12 legitimate medical order or not. 13 0 And if you're looking at a pharmacy and the defendants here are pharmacies, what percentage of 14 15 cash payments for prescriptions constitutes an 16 inappropriate amount? That's what I'm trying to 17 get at. If you are judging a pharmacy on whether its dispensed prescriptions are being diverted, I'm 18 just saying, I think it's fair to say that 19 20 87 percent of opioid prescriptions being paid for in cash is probably indicative of diversion at that 2.1 22 pharmacy. Would you agree with that? 23 Yes, sir. 24 Α 25 Would you agree that 50 percent of opioid

Page 506 prescriptions being paid for in cash is also 1 indicative of diversion? 2. MR. ELSNER: Objection. 3 Α I think, again, when we're looking at percentages 4 5 and the question that came up earlier about what is significant and what is not, when we're dealing 6 7 with prescriptions that are not legitimate, that is the concern overall; and whether a pharmacy has 9 50 percent or 87 percent, the fact that there are 10 patients paying for the prescriptions as a red flag needs to be resolved. 11 12 And, then, how much of that pharmacy's 13 inventory or percentage is information the corporation has, and that the pharmacy should 14 15 receive so the pharmacist could make a better decision. But as far as I'm concerned, 1 percent 16 17 would be significant or one patient if that's not a legitimate prescription. 18 BY MR. KOBRIN: 19 20 But we're not -- we don't know if that's a legitimate prescription. We're using this flag to 2.1 22 decide whether we think it's a legitimate 23 prescription, right? Correct. And we take each flag individually and 24 25 analyze it, and then the pharmacy corporation has

Page 507 to provide data to conduct the larger analysis as 1 2. to what those percentages might be and whether or not those percentages should be included in the 3 discussion or determination of the pharmacists. 4 5 Q So you have no opinion either way whether there's a 6 certain number of a prescriptions at a pharmacy 7 that would be an acceptable level of cash payments for opioid prescriptions? 8 9 Α My testimony is that cash payments is a red flag 10 and that a pharmacy has to evaluate those cash 11 prescriptions. But we've already established that a certain number 12 13 you expect would be paid for in cash, I believe you yesterday you that generally only 87 to 90 percent 14 15 of prescriptions are covered by some form of 16 insurance, correct? 17 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 18 (Stenographer requested clarification.) 19 A Yes. 20 BY MR. KOBRIN: You have no opinion as to whether a certain 2.1 Q 22 percentage would be an acceptable percentage of 23 cash payments in order to assess the dispensing from a particular pharmacy? 24 25 MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Page 508

A My opinion is that that is one of the factors that the pharmacist looks at to determine whether it's a legitimate prescription. But the percentage whether it's 10 percent, 20 percent, 80 percent, 90 percent, is secondary to the fact that the pharmacist and the corporation make a determination as to whether or not that's a legitimate prescription.

## BY MR. KOBRIN:

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- Q What about the fact that you're looking at the number of cash prescriptions in an aggregate? Does they tell you anything about the defendants in this case? Shouldn't we be looking at all of these individually? You're looking at them in aggregate, correct?
- A Yes, sir. What I've commented or testified before is that absent that documentation that would help me realize which prescriptions actually had red flags that were resolved or not, the aggregate data is important to identify that there was a pattern occurring and something that warranted concern because of the number of prescriptions and the number of opioids that were being distributed, sir.

Q But you could assess the whole prescription? You have all the information about the prescription.

Page 509 Short of some PHI, you have the dispensing -- you 1 2 have the dispensing pharmacist's name, you have the prescriber's name, you are have the dosage amount. 3 You have all that information. Why can't you make 4 5 the assessment? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 6 7 BY MR. KOBRIN: Why are you only dealing with this in aggregate? Q 9 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 10 Α The only data I received in that regard were sample 11 data from the individual defendants, but I did not look at the entire prescription database. 12 13 BY MR. KOBRIN: So you're saying that you can't judge the percent 14 15 of prescriptions for any particular opioid that were paid for in cash because every prescription 16 17 has to be looked at individually, correct? 18 MR. ELSNER: Objection. Let me explain and see if I understand the question 19 20 correctly, sir. What I'm saying is that the percentages of the 2.1 22 red flags that each of the defendants had in regard 23 to what is significant or how many of those were actually red flags, I don't have that 24 25 information -- I don't have that information absent

Page 510

documentation.

And as far as I'm concerned in my opinion, the percentage is less important and not as important as the fact that the red flags existed and the red flags were resolved, whether that's 1 percent or 99 percent. The opinion is any red flag, any prescription with red flags should not have been dispensed by the defendants.

BY MR. KOBRIN:

- Q But you said you need to look at each one individually, correct? You need to look at each prescription individually?
- A In order to substantiate some of the questions that you're asking about the actual percentages and the actual number of prescriptions that were legitimate or not.
- Q Well, you listed these pharmacies and I'm saying
  I'd like to ask for a particular brick and mortar
  pharmacy. What percentage of cash prescriptions
  would be an acceptable amount to be paid in cash?
  And you're saying you have no opinion about that
  because things need to be analyzed individually,
  correct?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A I think you're asking two different questions and

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Page 511 I'll respond to both of them as I understand 1 2. them --BY MR. KOBRIN: 3 I'm only asking one, sir, if you can answer my 4 5 question. 6 Α Sure. 7 The industry --I'm saying --Q 9 Α -- industry data says that the average pharmacists 10 and average pharmacy, that 95 percent of the 11 prescriptions processed are covered by insurance. 12 That's what my testimony is. 13 I'm not saying what percentage that a pharmacy that processes cash would be determined to be 14 15 diversion or not legitimate. Because pharmacies 16 could process 10 percent of the prescriptions that 17 are cash, and those 10 percent could all be diverted or not for legitimate purpose as well. 18 And they could all be perfectly acceptable and for 19 20 legitimate purposes as well, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 Correct, sir. That's why the percentage is there 22 Α as a guide and that's why it's important to look at 23 all the information. 24 MS. ZINMASTER: If I may just interject 25

Page 512 quickly. Tara lost -- Ms. Fumerton lost audio. 1 2 Can we go off the record for just a moment? THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going off the record 3 at 12:26 p.m. (A recess was taken.) 5 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the 6 7 record at 12:29 p.m. MR. KOBRIN: I am going to pass the witness 8 and if we have time remaining, I have a couple more 9 10 questions. Thanks. MR. ELSNER: Dr. Catizone, I've got -- do you 11 12 have another --13 MR. KOBRIN: No, I'm sorry. I meant pass it to Ms. Fumerton. She's the next questioner. 14 15 MR. ELSNER: Oh, I'm sorry. 16 MS. FUMERTON: Yes. I'm going to --17 MR. ELSNER: That was important to get her back online. 18 19 MR. KOBRIN: That was why, we had to get her 20 back on. MR. ELSNER: I was right. 2.1  $\mbox{MR.}$  KOBRIN: I'm sorry. I assumed that you 22 23 got that because you were doing it. Right? 24 25

Page 513 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 1 2 QUESTIONS BY TARA FUMERTON: Thank you, Josh, and thank you, Mr. Catizone. 3 0 I'm going to be very brief and so I'm going to 4 ask a series or yes-or-no questions, if you can 5 keep to that, we'll be even briefer. 6 7 Mr. Swanson, this morning, asked you questions about blanket refusals to fill policies, correct? Α Yes. 10 You understood that Walmart pharmacists have always Q had the ability to refuse to fill any prescription 11 that they felt was inappropriate for any reason, 12 13 correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 14 15 A Yes. BY MS. FUMERTON: 16 17 And that meant that Walmart pharmacists could exercise their professional judgment and not fill a 18 single prescription from a prescriber they felt was 19 20 problematic, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection. 2.1 22 That's my understanding, yes. BY MS. FUMERTON: 23 And Walmart, through its evolution of policies, 24 25 also began permitting its pharmacists to blanket

Page 514 refuse to fill a prescription from certain doctors, 1 2. correct? That, I'm not aware of. 3 A Okay. Well, are you aware that at Walmart the 5 blanket refuse to fill a prescription is a decision that is made by a single pharmacist in their 6 7 professional judgment to not fill any prescriptions from a particular prescriber without looking at that individual prescription? 9 10 MR. ELSNER: Objection. That's not my understanding, but I thought you just 11 A 12 mentioned earlier that Walmart permitted its 13 pharmacists to do that. So it would seem that that decision was made based with Walmart's approval. 14 15 So the corporation approved or allowed pharmacists 16 to do that rather that the pharmacists exercising 17 independent judgment. But I'm not familiar with 18 that. BY MS. FUMERTON: 19 20 So regardless, you understood that at any given time if a Walmart pharmacist didn't want to fill a 2.1 22 prescription from a particular prescriber for a 23 particular reason, they didn't have to do so, 24 right? 25 As long as the reason was justified, yes.

Page 515 Are you familiar that Walmart, through its 1 2 evolution of policies, began centrally blocking prescribers? 3 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 4 No, I'm not familiar with that. 5 Α BY MS. FUMERTON: 6 7 Okay. You did not read the deposition of Walmart's corporate representative Sussane Hiland in this case, correct? 9 10 Α I can't recall specifically if I did or not. 11 know I did read depositions from Walmart, but I 12 can't recall that one specifically. 13 Do you know Ms. Hiland? 0 Yes, I do. 14 Α 15 Do you have a favorable opinion of her? Q 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 17 Α I don't have an opinion one way or the other. worked with her professionally, but don't have an 18 opinion. 19 20 BY MS. FUMERTON: And you always found her to be professional, 2.1 Q 22 correct? 23 A In my professional interactions and all of our discussions we were always at the professional 24 25 level, and I found them to be professional, yes.

Page 516

Are you aware that Ms. Hiland testified that
Walmart associates had conversations with various
boards of pharmacies where those boards took the
position that it would be inappropriate for a
retail chain pharmacy to centrally block a
prescriber?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A I don't recall the deposition, but I do know that that were -- that issue was raised, but I'm not sure because of the blanket refusal to -- for one physician. It was based upon the fact that the entire practice was going to be a blanket refusal and boards of pharmacy had issues with that rather than dealing with an individual prescriber based on information the pharmacy may have.

## BY MS. FUMERTON:

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And so I just want to make sure the record is clear and we're not talking past each other. So in the blanket refuse to fill, it's a pharmacist who is making the decision not to fill any particular prescriptions from a particular prescriber, correct?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

A That would be my understanding, but you're referring to Walmart having a blanket policy and

Page 517 Walmart, so you're suggesting that the corporation 1 2. made that decision rather than the pharmacist's independent judgment. 3 BY MS. FUMERTON: 4 5 Q So what I'm distinguishing between is the pharmacist's decision and then also a corporate 6 7 block policy or sometimes referred to as the "central block policy" where the corporate entity 8 at home office would make a decision that none of 9 10 its pharmacists nationwide could fill for a 11 particular prescriber. 12 Are you familiar with that concept? 13 Α I'm not familiar, but I don't understand how that central policy that impacts the pharmacist's 14 15 individual judgment. That's not my question. 16 0 17 Are you familiar with the concept of a centrally blocked prescriber? 18 No, I'm not. 19 Α 20 But you are aware that various boards of pharmacies Q have concerns about the home office making a 2.1 22 decision for the pharmacist as to whether or not the pharmacists could fill a prescription, correct? 23 24 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 25 That's not my understanding, no.

Page 518 BY MS. FUMERTON: 1 2 Well, earlier you just testified that you knew that there were discussions at the boards of pharmacy about this, correct? 4 5 A Correct. Are you aware that the Wisconsin pharmacy board has 6 7 issued an administrative warning to Walmart citing evidence of professional misconduct because 8 Walmart's corporate block policies were deterring 10 pharmacists from exercising their independent clinic judgment? 11 12 MR. ELSNER: Objection. 13 A I'm aware of the case, but I think there was more to it than that. 14 15 BY MS. FUMERTON: Are you aware that the Idaho board --16 17 MR. ELSNER: Ms. Fumerton, you're out of time. BY MS. FUMERTON: 18 19 Are you aware that the Idaho board --20 MS. FUMERTON: I'm sorry? MR. ELSNER: The time period has expired. 2.1 22 I've given you another minute of latitude, but the 23 time is now expired. MS. FUMERTON: Are you not going to let me ask 24 25 some more -- another question?

Page 519 MR. ELSNER: I'll let you finish the question 1 2. you started, but you've already exceeded your time, so you can ask about the Idaho board if you want. 3 But I'm not going to let you continue down this 4 line of inquiry unlimited. You've already used 5 6 your ten hours. 7 MS. FUMERTON: All right. BY MS. FUMERTON: 9 Are you aware, Mr. Catizone, that the Idaho Board 10 of Pharmacy has also stated that Walmart's directive that certain doctors cannot have -- that 11 12 Walmart's directive that certain doctors cannot have controlled substance prescriptions filled at 13 Walmart pharmacies and, thereby, not allowing 14 15 pharmacists to determine what constitutes a valid 16 prescription is preventing pharmacists from 17 fulfilling their legal obligations as a pharmacist from exercising their obligation of corresponding 18 responsibility, which violates 21 CFR 1306.04A? 19 20 MR. ELSNER: Objection. I'm familiar with that. 2.1 A MS. FUMERTON: So I would --22 23 (Simultaneous conversation.) 24 MS. FUMERTON: -- counsel were prohibited 25 from -- defendants from asking any further

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Page 520

questions at this point in time. I'd like to lodge an objection to the ten-hour limit that was imposed on the pharmacists -- on the pharmacy defendants, given that this is a new expert with an over-100-page report, and five defendants who all had questions that I know they were not able to ask, so...

MR. KOBRIN: Yeah. I'd like to specifically lodge an objection on behalf of Giant Eagle. We did not have enough time to ask the questions that we had prepared for today. Mr. Elsner, you won't let me go back and ask the remaining questions that I have?

MR. ELSNER: No, I won't. This is an order from Judge Polster with respect to the time, and you've had ample time to ask questions. If you didn't divide your time equally among counsel, I'm sorry. That's not my issue or Mr. Catizone's.

MR. KOBRIN: You're not --

SPECIAL MASTER COHEN: Your objections are all noted for the record, and I've also observed, Josh, that you are very good at interrupting the deponent but you're even interrupting cocounsel, and I really urge you to watch that. You've been stepping on Tara this whole time.

Page 521 If you go back and look at the transcript, 1 2 you'll see that you're interrupting her more than 3 once. So I think that brings things to an end. 4 MR. GISLESON: Rite Aid shares that objection 5 as well. I would have asked more questions had the 6 7 parties been given more time. The ten hours was inadequate. 8 9 MR. ELSNER: I'm sure every lawyer feels that 10 way about every deposition. I would like to just 11 pause for a minute, I want to make sure there's no 12 issues that we want to clean up in redirect and I'll just go off the record. I should be able to 13 do that in one or two minutes. 14 15 MS. FUMERTON: Okay. We'll come back. 16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going off record at 17 12:38 p.m. (A recess was taken.) 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the 19 20 record at 12:43 p.m. 2.1 CROSS-EXAMINATION 22 QUESTIONS BY MICHAEL ELSNER: 23 Mr. Catizone, will you please explain to us what the importance or significance is --24 25 MS. FUMERTON: So Mike --

Page 522 1 MR. ELSNER: Excuse me? MS. FUMERTON: So Mike, you are asking 2 questions? I thought we were going back to find 3 out if you are. I'm trying to understand what's 5 happening. MR. ELSNER: I have maybe three questions to 6 ask. Very brief. MS. FUMERTON: Okay. Thank you. 8 9 MR. ELSNER: Sorry about that. BY MR. ELSNER: 10 Mr. Catizone, I'm Michael Elsner from the law firm 11 of Motley Rice on behalf of the plaintiffs. 12 13 just going to ask you just a few brief questions this afternoon. 14 15 Mr. Catizone, what is the importance or 16 significance, if any, to a single opioid 17 prescription that presents with a red flag? The significance of that is that medication is a 18 A very dangerous and harmful medication, and if that 19 20 red flag is not resolved, and those medications go outside of the system, are diverted, or abused, 2.1 that patient harm could occur and does occur. 22 So is it your testimony that every single red flag 23 0 prescription must be resolved before it is 24 25 dispensed?

Page 523 My opinion, and also information that's been 1 2 conveyed to pharmacists by the DEA and boards of pharmacy as well. 3 And what must be done in your opinion with respect 4 to each red flagged opioid prescription? 5 The red flag needs to be resolved --6 Α 7 MS. FUMERTON: Object to form. The red flag needs to be resolved so that the 8 A 9 pharmacist is assured that the prescription is for 10 a legitimate medical purpose and that it won't 11 create harm to the patient. 12 BY MR. ELSNER: 13 And does the resolution of that red flag need to be 0 documented in any way? 14 15 A Yes. 16 MR. SWANSON: Objection. 17 BY MR. ELSNER: What was the answer? 18 Q Yes, it does. 19 20 And how many of those red flag prescriptions must be resolved and also documented? 2.1 MS. FUMERTON: Objection; form. 22 23 Α Any prescription with a red flag must be resolved and documented. 24 25 BY MR. ELSNER:

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Page 524
           Okay. So when you testified earlier that it would
 1
 2
           be generally significant of 70, 80 percent of red
           flag opioid prescriptions did not have
 3
           documentation, was that correct?
 4
 5
      A
           No.
                MR. SWANSON: Object to form. Misstates his
 6
 7
           testimony.
        BY MR. FLSNER:
           What percentage of red flag opioid prescriptions in
 9
10
           your opinion must be resolved and documented under
           the Controlled Substances Act, the Ohio Board of
11
12
           Pharmacy rules, and general pharmacy practice?
           100 percent.
13
      A
14
               MS. FUMERTON: Objection; form.
15
               MR. ELSNER: I pass the witness.
16
                THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?
17
               MR. ELSNER: I don't have any further
18
           questions.
               MS. FUMERTON: Are we off the record?
19
20
                THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going off the record
           at 12:45 p.m.
2.1
22
                (A recess was taken.)
23
                THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going back on the
24
           record at 12:49 p.m.
25
        BY MR. GISLESON:
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Page 525

Mr. Catizone, it's John Gisleson again for Rite Aid.

You just testified that a red flag needs to be resolved so that the pharmacist is assured that the prescription is for a legitimate medical purpose and that it won't create harm to the patient.

Can you identify a single patient among the aggregate data you identified who, in fact, was harmed as a result in your view of a pharmacist for one of the chain pharmacies not resolving a red flaq?

MR. ELSNER: Objection.

Mr. Gisleson, I can't say that to a specific Α prescription, but I could say the overall aggregate data in opioid overdoses and deaths would indicate that there were patients that were harmed and actually died from those prescriptions dispensed.

BY MR. GISLESON:

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- As an expert in this case, you made no effort to identify a specific patient, included among the aggregate data, who, in fact, was harmed, correct? MR. ELSNER: Objection.
- I did not perform any analysis to that extent, sir. 23 BY MR. GISLESON:
  - So that when you're asked under oath at trial,

Page 526 based on your review of aggregate data, if you can 1 2 identify a single patient in Lake or Trumbull County among your flagged prescriptions, who, in 3 fact, was harmed, your answer will be no, correct? 4 5 MR. ELSNER: Objection. If that question is asked, then that would be my 6 7 answer. MR. GISLESON: Those are the questions I have. Josh? 9 10 RECROSS-EXAMINATION OUESTIONS BY JOSHUA KOBRIN: 11 Returning to the red flags you were just testifying 12 13 about on redirect, why did you choose a distance of 25 miles as a red flag metric for the distance 14 15 patients traveled to visit a prescriber? 16 MR. ELSNER: Objection; it's beyond the scope. SPECIAL MASTER COHEN: That's sustained. 17 18 MR. KOBRIN: So you're not going to allow me to ask that question, Special Master Cohen? 19 20 SPECIAL MASTER COHEN: Right. That's something that you delved into before and was not 2.1 22 asked by Mr. Elsner during the last go-around. MR. KOBRIN: I'm sorry. That I delved into 23 before or just that defendants did? 24 25 SPECIAL MASTER COHEN: It's beyond the scope

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Page 527 1 of Mr. Elsner's questioning. MR. KOBRIN: Anyone want to ask him any other 2 questions for the defense that they want to ask 3 that are within the scope? 4 We pass then. 5 MR. ELSNER: Thank you very much. 6 7 MS. FUMERTON: And I just -- I think this is on the record --8 9 MR. ELSNER: Can we go off the record? I think the deposition is closed at this point. 10 11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the record 12 at 12:52 p.m. 13 14 FURTHER THE DEPONENT SAITH NOT 15 16 17 CARMEN A. CATIZONE, MS, RPh, DPh 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Page 528 1 STATE OF INDIANA ) ) SS: 2 COUNTY OF HAMILTON 3 4 I, Amy Doman, Stenographic Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime 5 Reporter, Certified Shorthand Reporter, Notary 6 Public in and for the County of Hamilton, State 7 of Indiana, at Large, do hereby certify that CARMEN A. CATIZONE, MS, RPh, DPh, the deponent 9 herein, was by me first remotely duly sworn to 10 tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but 11 the truth in the aforementioned matter; 12 13 That the foregoing deposition was taken on behalf of the Defendants, in Mount Pleasant, South 14 15 Carolina, on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; 16 That said deposition was taken down in 17 18 stenographic notes and afterwards reduced to typewriting under my direction, and that the 19 20 typewritten transcript is a true record of the testimony given by the said deponent; and that 21 signature was requested by the deponent and all 22 23 parties present; That the parties were represented by their 24 25 counsel as aforementioned.

Page 529 I do further certify that I am a disinterested 1 2 person in this cause of action, that I am not a relative or attorney of either party or otherwise 3 interested in the event of this action, and that I 5 am not in the employ of the attorneys for any 6 party. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 21st day 8 of June, 2021. 9 10 11 12 almy Roman 13 Amy Doman, RMR, CRR, CSR 14 15 Stenographic Reporter Notary Public 16 17 18 My Commission Expires: 19 20 September 30, 2025, 2.1 Residing in Hamilton County, Indiana 22 23 24 25

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Page 530
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 6
      Case Name: National Prescription Opiate Litigation - Track 3 v.
7
      Veritext Reference Number: 4628785
8
      Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh Deposition Date: 6/16/2021
9
10
      Dear Sir/Madam:
11
      Enclosed please find a deposition transcript. Please have the witness
12
      review the transcript and note any changes or corrections on the
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	Page 531
1	DEPOSITION REVIEW
	CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS
2	
	ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 4628785
3	CASE NAME: National Prescription Opiate Litigation - Track 3
	DATE OF DEPOSITION: 6/16/2021
4	WITNESS' NAME: Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh
5	In accordance with the Rules of Civil
	Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of
6	my testimony or it has been read to me.
7	I have made no changes to the testimony
	as transcribed by the court reporter.
8	
9	Date Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh
0	Sworn to and subscribed before me, a
_	Notary Public in and for the State and County,
1	the referenced witness did personally appear
_	and acknowledge that:
2	
2	They have read the transcript;
3	They signed the foregoing Sworn
Į.	Statement; and Their execution of this Statement is of
	their free act and deed.
	their free act and deed.
	I have affixed my name and official seal
	I have affixed my hame and official scar
	this day of, 20
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8	Notary Public
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	Commission Expiration Date
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	Page 532
1	DEPOSITION REVIEW
	CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS
2	
	ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 4628785
3	CASE NAME: National Prescription Opiate Litigation - Track 3
	DATE OF DEPOSITION: 6/16/2021
4	WITNESS' NAME: Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh
5	In accordance with the Rules of Civil
	Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of
6	my testimony or it has been read to me.
7	I have listed my changes on the attached
	Errata Sheet, listing page and line numbers as
8	well as the reason(s) for the change(s).
9	I request that these changes be entered
	as part of the record of my testimony.
10	
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11	as this Certificate, and request and authorize
	that both be appended to the transcript of my
12	testimony and be incorporated therein.
13	
	Date Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh
14	
	Sworn to and subscribed before me, a
15	Notary Public in and for the State and County,
1.0	the referenced witness did personally appear
16	and acknowledge that:
17	They have read the transcript;
18	They have listed all of their corrections
Τ0	in the appended Errata Sheet;
19	They signed the foregoing Sworn  Statement; and
19	Their execution of this Statement is of
20	their free act and deed.
21	I have affixed my name and official seal
22	this day of, 20
23	
	Notary Public
24	
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25	Commission Expiration Date

		Page 533
	ERRATA SHEET	
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[& - 37,066] Page 1

& 344:9 345:3,16 0	<b>1306.07</b> 357:14 <b>14</b> 397:21 398:8,17 400:11	508:4 531:16 532:22 533:22	<b>240</b> 392:1 <b>2440</b> 344:17
		JJZ:ZZ JJJ:ZZ	/ (   (
0		20036-5807	<b>2440</b> 344.17 <b>24400</b> 346:11
	<b>140</b> 428:20	344:21	<b>25</b> 353:24 354:1
<b>014</b> 347:15 363:13	<b>15</b> 402:2 459:13	<b>2004</b> 359:17	399:3,7,12 413:19
<b>06</b> 353:16	<b>15219</b> 345:5	<b>2006</b> 413:24	526:14
<b>08</b> 373:16	15219-2514	426:24 429:18	<b>269-4335</b> 345:10
1	345:13	436:16 453:19	<b>28</b> 344:5 431:17
	<b>16</b> 343:17 347:15	<b>2008</b> 486:6	<b>2804</b> 343:3,3 348:8
1 348:3 506:16	363:7,8,13,19	<b>2009</b> 457:12,20	<b>29464</b> 344:6
510:5	365:1 400:2,5,25	<b>2010</b> 465:25	
10 350:6,8,13	401:24 402:3,4	<b>2010</b> 403.23 <b>2011</b> 347:17 374:1	3
390:13 397:7	412:23 528:15	376:5 465:1,23,25	<b>3</b> 380:24 397:8,11
417:16 418:6	<b>16th</b> 348:3 390:9	466:3	466:24 477:1
508:4 511:16,17	467:1	<b>2014</b> 364:5	530:6 531:3 532:3
<b>100</b> 344:16 520:5	<b>17</b> 343:3 347:17	<b>2015</b> 390:14 465:1	<b>3/10/2015</b> 347:19
524:13	348:8 373:19,20	466:5	<b>30</b> 359:12 399:15
1000 344:21	374:8 377:4	<b>2017</b> 382:9	417:17 418:6
1001 344:10	<b>1700</b> 344:11	<b>202</b> 344:22	478:1 483:11,24
<b>10:32</b> 466:22	<b>1700</b> 344:11 <b>1701</b> 345:17	<b>2020</b> 413:24	484:7,15,17 485:1
<b>10:48</b> 467:2	<b>18</b> 347:19 389:4	426:24 429:18	485:13 529:20
1100 530:1	390:12 391:5	453:20	<b>300</b> 346:11
<b>11:12</b> 491:13	392:14,25 478:24	<b>2021</b> 343:17 348:3	<b>303</b> 345:24
<b>11:58</b> 491:16	479:2 481:8	390:9 467:1,7	<b>312</b> 345:10
<b>1200</b> 345:23	<b>1800</b> 344:20	484:4 528:15	<b>316</b> 346:3
<b>12:03</b> 496:8	<b>1801</b> 345:22	529:9 530:4	<b>32502</b> 346:4
<b>12:10</b> 496:11	<b>1820</b> 530:2	<b>2025</b> 529:20	<b>33</b> 413:11,15
<b>12:26</b> 512:4	<b>19</b> 363:2,3 467:7	<b>205</b> 346:4	<b>338-5214</b> 345:6
<b>12:29</b> 512:7	<b>19-1-9</b> 363:2	<b>21</b> 519:19 530:4	<b>344</b> 347:3
<b>12:38</b> 521:17	19103-2921	<b>21178</b> 529:13	<b>35</b> 353:9 399:6
<b>12:43</b> 521:20	345:18	21202-1031	468:12 469:7
<b>12:45</b> 524:21	<b>1919</b> 363:2	344:17	<b>3500</b> 345:9
<b>12:49</b> 524:24		<b>215</b> 345:18	<b>359</b> 347:15
<b>12:52</b> 527:12	2	<b>216</b> 344:12 346:12	<b>35th</b> 345:5
<b>1306.04</b> 353:16,19	2 348:4 349:1	216-523-1313	<b>369</b> 347:17
354:4,9,19 357:6	350:6 376:8	530:3	<b>37</b> 486:17
372:3	380:24 390:7	<b>216-9000</b> 344:6	<b>37,000</b> 416:22
<b>1306.04.</b> 354:3	413:16 420:18	21st 529:8	418:18
1306.04a 519:19	471:15	<b>23</b> 389:3	<b>37,066</b> 413:22
<b>1306.06</b> 354:9,20	<b>20</b> 399:16 417:17	<b>24</b> 436:7	414:4,10,16,20
357:6	418:6 476:23	_: 150.7	416:3,8,15 417:6
	479:3 485:12		418:1,11 420:17

[385 - actual] Page 2

		I	I
<b>385</b> 347:19	7	a	accuracy 373:9
<b>39</b> 483:10,14 484:1	<b>70</b> 418:7,10,16,21	<b>a.m.</b> 343:17 348:2	accurate 351:24
484:11,20	418:24 419:4,19	390:5,10 401:15	373:7
<b>394-7911</b> 345:14	420:8 421:2 445:7	401:18 466:22	acknowledge
<b>396-5014</b> 346:4	524:2	467:2 491:13,16	531:11 532:16
4	77 345:9	aberrant 400:17	acknowledges
	<b>778-1800</b> 344:22		502:20
4 400:16 408:21,23		400:23 401:7	act 347:15 352:5
419:9 486:16	<b>78</b> 382:4,6,8	402:10,18 404:10	352:10,18 353:17
40 483:25 484:6,11	8	404:11 405:20	354:18 355:24
485:8	8 366:20	408:11	356:13 358:6
<b>410</b> 344:18	<b>80</b> 418:7,16,22,24	ability 378:3 384:8	363:14 364:5,12
<b>412</b> 345:6,14	419:4 421:2 445:8	439:24 449:22	364:15 367:13,16
<b>417</b> 347:4	508:4 524:2	463:22 513:11	367:19,20 368:4
<b>44114</b> 344:11	<b>80202</b> 345:23	<b>able</b> 353:8 361:10	· ·
530:2	<b>831-0001</b> 346:12	377:16 378:10	368:25 369:3
<b>44122</b> 346:11	<b>843</b> 344:6	388:1 412:7 415:8	370:1,4,13,14,15
<b>4500</b> 345:13		420:10 428:23	371:20 373:1
<b>46</b> 489:25	<b>87</b> 502:17,23 503:9	455:6 520:6	377:24 428:1
<b>4628785</b> 530:7	503:16,21 504:8	521:13	441:2 449:22
531:2 532:2 533:2	504:18 505:20	absent 420:5	478:14 479:23
<b>463</b> 347:6	506:9 507:14	451:15 508:17	524:11 531:14
<b>47</b> 487:4	<b>8:00</b> 343:17	509:25	532:20
	<b>8:09</b> 348:2	abuse 353:8	acting 471:8,9
5	<b>8:59</b> 390:5	400:18 401:6	action 380:9
<b>5</b> 367:23 483:9,18	9	402:9	439:13 459:24
483:22	9 352:1		503:20 529:2,4
<b>50</b> 505:25 506:9	<b>90</b> 418:8,11 419:19	abused 522:21	actions 385:14
<b>500</b> 345:13	ĺ ,	abusing 456:11	497:1,8,9,12
<b>509</b> 347:7	420:9 507:14	academics 475:4	502:17 503:16
<b>51</b> 502:5,6,8	508:5	academy 391:22	active 382:12
<b>517</b> 347:9	91 366:15,18,20	acceptable 404:6	383:16
<b>522</b> 347:10	92 367:23	507:7,22 510:20	activities 431:24
<b>55</b> 457:18	<b>949-1159</b> 344:18	511:19	
<b>56</b> 457:18,20	<b>95</b> 511:10	access 409:25	activity 431:7
<b>592-3197</b> 345:24	<b>963-5328</b> 345:18	427:2,3 429:15	acton 344:20
	<b>9630</b> 365:24	436:3 437:5,8	acts 362:20
6	<b>99</b> 510:6	438:17 449:11	actual 391:21
<b>6/16/2021</b> 530:8	<b>9:07</b> 390:10	453:16 464:24	436:22 443:15
531:3 532:3	<b>9:20</b> 401:15	accessed 478:3	476:12 477:18
<b>600-0114</b> 344:12	<b>9:21</b> 401:18	480:25	481:13,13 484:5
60601-1692		accountable 379:7	497:15 498:12
345:10		379:15 381:25	499:2 502:10
		377.12 301.20	

[actual - appear] Page 3

510:14,15	509:8 525:8,14,21	alerts 361:7,9	478:3 506:25
<b>added</b> 490:4	526:1	368:8	analyzed 441:21
<b>adding</b> 497:20	<b>ago</b> 360:18,22	algorithm 453:2	445:17 494:4
addition 462:12	agree 375:3 377:3	algorithms 474:18	510:22
498:3	378:20,20 379:21	allege 479:6	analyzes 440:16
additional 398:12	398:19,21 404:1	alliance 345:20	analyzing 447:9
489:18	424:10,13 450:22	allow 377:6	490:7
address 427:25	451:2 491:10	382:10 417:21	ands 400:6
530:15	504:2,5,14,16	446:19 526:18	annual 394:12
addressed 455:20	505:23,25	allowed 514:15	annually 428:17
adequate 462:25	<b>agreed</b> 375:10	allowing 519:14	answer 356:12,12
adjudicating	404:1	allows 452:7	356:21,22 357:11
440:23	agreement 356:25	ama 394:12,22,23	357:22 358:12
administering	457:14,24	395:4,8,12 396:7	367:11 368:24
432:25	ahead 375:14	396:19	375:14 378:6
administration	aid 345:15 421:20	amas 394:13	380:12 383:7
475:5	421:25 439:5	american 391:22	388:2 400:3 410:2
administrative	443:12 450:3,5,8	403:5 463:16	411:19 412:9,9
431:1 518:7	450:13 458:9	amount 416:19,20	417:10 418:5
administrators	459:11,15,25	446:3,13,13,18,20	421:7 434:20
480:19 481:15	460:1,19 461:20	460:5,12 462:18	439:11 442:19
<b>advise</b> 371:13	462:1,4,5,7,16	505:16 509:3	443:9,17 453:22
440:14	463:8 486:1 494:9	510:20	456:13 461:18,24
advised 465:8	494:15 502:11	amounts 375:23	469:12,18 471:18
advocate 383:21	521:5 525:2	ample 520:16	489:2 493:16
386:16	aid's 437:2,8 443:6	amy 343:14	497:4 511:4
advocated 386:20	457:12 458:24	348:12,16 528:4	523:18 526:4,7
387:12,16,22	459:5,8 462:20	529:14	<b>answered</b> 357:8,9
<b>affirm</b> 449:25	aids 349:7	analysis 391:2	368:23 369:23
affixed 529:8	<b>aimed</b> 474:19	421:9 424:17	370:6 411:17
531:15 532:21	albertsons 360:6	442:3 448:18	496:19
aforementioned	360:15,19 361:14	462:20,23 463:2	answering 421:12
528:12,25	361:22 362:3,13	463:10,14 469:11	493:15
afternoon 522:14	371:8 412:2,11	476:3 478:11,13	answers 405:6
agency 466:14	496:14	481:6,9,13 489:8,9	anybody 430:20
aggravated 403:10	alert 351:21	489:18,23 492:18	anymore 371:20
aggregate 414:25	361:15,19,23	493:10 499:18,24	apart 443:1
415:16,20 416:24	362:4 366:11	501:22 507:1	apologize 379:2,3
417:22 439:7	431:6,23	525:23	488:3 503:13
454:14,17 464:6	alerting 455:22	analyze 447:5	appear 531:11
508:11,14,19		470:13 471:18	532:15

## [appearances - back]

appearances	area 354:11	asks 378:17	authorize 532:11
345:1 346:1	422:22,25 423:11	assess 507:23	automated 365:11
appeared 407:23	423:12,15	508:24	366:4,10,15,21,24
appears 375:17	areas 392:16	assessment 395:16	367:25 368:2
484:5 489:25	394:3	509:5	441:5
appended 532:11	arena 405:12	assignment 531:2	available 368:10
532:18	article 377:7	532:2 533:2	389:21 410:12,16
apples 486:23,23	478:22,22 479:7,8	assist 409:5,17	411:2 415:11
application 354:9	479:10,17,17	assistant 470:23	440:21 441:7,7
applied 483:8,21	480:7 481:8,16,19	assists 477:8	447:1 449:13
485:18,21,25	481:21	associated 447:10	450:1,10 452:25
486:13,20	articles 479:14	456:7	499:14
applies 432:4	481:25 482:4	associates 516:2	ave 530:1
apply 382:25	ascertain 505:11	association 347:16	avenue 344:10
421:7 486:8,17	ashley 355:11	363:15 403:6	average 441:11,15
appreciate 375:11	aside 371:21 382:3	463:17	511:9,10
421:12	asked 357:8,9	<b>assume</b> 448:16	aware 361:17
approached	368:23 369:23	assumed 512:22	370:19 436:7
394:22 395:4	370:5 375:10	assuming 388:23	441:14,19 445:16
appropriate 353:1	383:24 384:19	assumption 378:1	448:6,19 452:6
353:5 356:16	403:1,3 408:3	495:15 502:3	464:20 468:15
358:11 367:11	411:17 412:5	assumptions 378:4	498:21 514:3,4
369:5,10 370:9,16	418:13 421:7	<b>assure</b> 349:23	516:1 517:20
378:18 387:23	453:13 463:19	assured 456:10	518:6,13,16,19
395:23 429:3	467:12 469:22	523:9 525:4	519:9
433:21 435:1	471:25 483:5	attached 532:7	awareness 371:1
437:23 445:21	490:8 492:6	attaches 390:15	b
446:3,13,20	493:10 496:19	attention 389:9	<b>b</b> 344:20 476:24
456:25	513:7 521:6	attorney 441:4	back 350:8 352:1
appropriately	525:25 526:6,22	529:3	376:4 384:22
368:5 396:25	asking 354:24	attorneys 395:9	385:13 388:17
432:8,11 433:22	355:23,25 356:9	491:25 492:4	390:9 393:23
approval 364:9	369:13,13,14	529:5	401:17,21 419:9
514:14	375:11 376:15	audio 512:1	438:15 459:23
approve 428:7,10	387:2 395:13	audit 350:25	467:1 488:12
440:6	396:2 426:8	351:12	491:15 493:11
approved 428:12	475:18 481:16	august 347:15	496:10 512:6,18
514:15	493:17 503:5	363:13	512:20 520:12
approximately	510:14,25 511:4	authorities 455:22	521:1,15,19 522:3
422:2	519:25 522:2	authority 386:22	524:23 530:15
		447:21 466:14	

## [background - brian.swanson]

background	begins 350:14	<b>bigger</b> 365:21	461:14,15 464:8
481:12	375:20 378:24	<b>bill</b> 433:13,17	464:17,21,23
balance 397:1	<b>behalf</b> 343:16	<b>bit</b> 358:25 362:17	465:4,6,9 466:9
baltimore 344:17	344:2,13 345:2,8	371:18 372:2	475:19 476:8,13
bartlit 345:21	345:15,20 520:9	395:3 399:23	476:14 479:20,25
bartlitbeck.com	522:12 528:14	<b>blank</b> 349:12	518:6,16,19 519:3
345:24	behavior 385:8	blanket 382:21	519:9 524:11
base 487:12 501:3	400:23 408:10,11	383:2,20 384:7,15	<b>boards</b> 347:16
<b>based</b> 354:10	408:12	386:10,17 387:12	359:22 363:15
380:3 383:3,18	behaviors 400:17	388:4 513:8,25	364:17 372:7
384:9 385:6	401:7 402:11,19	514:5 516:10,12	427:10 428:19
416:18,18,20,22	404:10,11,23	516:19,25	435:10 439:10
417:10,11 420:21	405:4,10,21	blanketly 382:10	459:12,24 460:2
433:6,12 435:8	believe 365:12	386:23 387:2	461:3 462:17
439:7 443:6	392:25 422:17	<b>block</b> 516:5 517:7	463:20 466:15
445:15 446:1	427:12 434:16	517:8 518:9	475:12 516:3,3,13
450:10 452:1,9	440:9 446:10	<b>blocked</b> 450:4,12	517:20 518:3
454:13,17,18	457:5 459:23	517:18	523:2
464:6 469:23	461:19 462:9	blocking 389:9	<b>bockius</b> 345:16
471:24 472:2	464:16,20 465:1	515:2	<b>boots</b> 345:20
478:6,9,13,14	466:3,4 467:23	<b>board</b> 347:18	<b>boss</b> 462:9
479:21 481:13	475:18 496:14	364:8 371:5 373:4	<b>bottle</b> 498:12,24
484:18 514:14	507:13	374:1 375:21	499:6
516:11,14 526:1	believed 433:8	376:14,20 377:4	<b>bottom</b> 367:24
basic 399:23	benzodiazepine	377:21 379:12,21	374:5 457:19
430:23	483:9,19,22 484:6	380:4,8,13 381:20	479:2
basis 353:11	484:21	385:8,11,12	boulevard 344:5
354:11 355:20	<b>best</b> 364:16 378:3	425:20 426:2,6,11	346:11
356:13,19 357:12	417:9 447:24	426:14,15 427:20	<b>box</b> 349:18 494:25
357:16,23 367:16	470:13	429:25 430:5,13	boxes 494:8,13,15
369:3 370:18	<b>better</b> 393:10	430:22,24 432:21	494:19
382:17 383:11	429:14 442:18	432:22 433:4,7,8	break 389:15,20
384:23 408:16	506:15	433:17,20 434:1,4	389:22 390:2,2
444:2 484:17	beyond 382:2	434:8 438:12	395:3
<b>baylen</b> 346:3	396:4,21 412:11	439:3,12,14,19,21	<b>breaks</b> 397:14
beck 345:21	417:12,14 420:10	440:5,14,14 441:1	400:21
began 492:14	420:14 453:7	447:4,9,15,18,22	<b>brian</b> 345:22
513:25 515:2	465:14 492:20	447:23 448:2,4	347:3 348:20
beginning 391:21	494:5 499:19	449:9,14,17	365:20 389:13,15
465:19	526:16,25	451:19 455:22	brian.swanson
		458:18,23 461:12	345:24

[brick - check] Page 6

<b>brick</b> 510:18	carolina 343:16	378:16 380:16	<b>chain</b> 350:14
bridgeside 344:5	344:6 376:15	390:8,12 401:20	360:6 371:2
<b>brief</b> 513:4 522:7	528:15	421:19 466:17,25	409:15 410:6
522:13	case 348:8 349:2	467:5 474:4	411:15 419:20
briefer 513:6	358:21 371:3,17	491:18 496:13	421:9 422:14
briefly 382:5	372:1 382:17,17	512:11 513:3	423:22 424:2,7
<b>brings</b> 521:4	383:11,11 384:23	519:9 521:23	425:16 426:16,20
broader 358:25	384:23 385:15	522:11,15 525:1	434:17 435:18
<b>bullet</b> 409:1 502:8	390:24 391:2	527:18 528:9	437:18 441:23
<b>bullets</b> 502:5,10	404:22 407:5,13	530:8 531:4,9	442:9,12,14,24
<b>bunch</b> 402:23	407:15 408:24	532:4,13 533:20	443:2 444:21
<b>bush</b> 344:16	409:13 422:21	catizone's 520:18	445:2,10 453:18
467:11 475:17	423:21 424:17	cause 343:3 529:2	454:11 462:24
479:20 483:5	425:23 426:1,12	ce 427:14	463:2,9 516:5
business 503:25	433:14 435:18	center 478:22	525:10
<b>buts</b> 400:6	437:19 441:22	central 517:8,14	<b>chains</b> 409:22
c	444:22 445:2,21	centralize 361:4	410:23 422:19
c 344:1 345:22	449:8 453:2,19	centrally 515:2	445:6,7 463:16
347:3 348:20	454:13 463:3,10	516:5 517:18	<b>chair</b> 417:25
ca 530:25	479:24 489:6	centre 345:5	418:14
calculate 446:20	499:11 502:18	certain 351:22	challenges 390:17
call 350:9 352:8	503:18 508:13	360:5 375:18	393:9 394:3
364:16 391:15	515:9 518:13	384:19 387:14	396:24 403:4
492:20 494:2,3	525:19 530:6	413:5 422:3	challenging
called 375:22	531:3 532:3	427:18,19 458:22	395:14
400:16 452:15	cases 343:7 421:11	462:18 465:2,3,4	chance 458:3
calling 395:21	438:19 457:2,4	477:5 498:1	<b>change</b> 471:7,12
396:2	475:8 478:1,2	499:10 507:6,12	471:13 530:13,14
calls 376:14	cash 404:15,24	507:21 514:1	532:8 533:3
493:24 494:1	406:21 502:7,19	519:11,12	changed 498:7
capture 470:6	503:3,17,22 504:2	certainly 387:7	changes 498:9
498:2 499:12	504:9,11,19 505:1	certificate 532:11	530:12 531:7
care 358:22	505:4,8,15,21	certification 531:1	532:7,9
399:20 448:12,15	506:1 507:7,9,10	532:1	charged 434:9
448:17 468:25	507:13,23 508:11	certified 343:15	<b>chart</b> 472:21
carmen 343:9,14	509:16 510:19,20	343:15 528:5,6	485:7
348:4 365:15	511:14,17	certify 528:8	<b>charts</b> 427:18
390:8 466:25	category 418:19	529:1	check 349:20
527:18 528:9	437:3	<b>cfr</b> 519:19	394:16 395:22
530:8 531:4,9	<b>catizone</b> 343:9,14	chagrin 346:11	427:23 459:24
532:4,13 533:20	348:5,21 365:5,23		465:10,17 482:11
332. r,13 333.20			

## [checklist - conducting]

checklist 386:3	464:1 516:17	<b>come</b> 521:15	compilation 427:8
checks 370:20	clearance 385:13	comes 354:12	427:16,24
chicago 345:10	cleared 415:14,15	504:23	compiled 427:17
496:15	416:2	coming 476:17	compiles 430:21
<b>choose</b> 526:13	cleveland 344:11	493:5	complaint 459:25
chose 467:15	346:11 414:21	<b>comment</b> 362:14	complaints 394:9
circumstances	530:2	371:13 374:15	complete 375:1,9
395:12 405:13	<b>client</b> 360:24	377:8,13,16 378:3	375:17,17 376:8
416:13 456:19	361:3	378:9 382:1,2	378:24 411:7
citation 352:11	clinic 414:21	438:6 499:19	430:12 431:9
cite 352:22 385:18	518:11	501:22	430.12 431.9
	clinics 375:22		_
385:20 478:20,20		commented	completed 530:15
479:5,7 481:22	closed 412:17	508:16	completeness
482:4,23	419:15,21 527:10	commission	374:17
cited 390:23	coaching 380:20	529:19 531:19	<b>compliance</b> 426:7
478:21 479:10	coalition 391:13	532:25 533:25	426:11 458:11
481:16,25 482:17	391:15	<b>committee</b> 391:9	complicated 442:5
<b>citing</b> 518:7	cocktail 483:9,18	391:12,15 480:17	442:7
civil 343:18	483:22 486:8	480:18	<b>comply</b> 357:21,24
528:16 531:5	cocktails 483:6	communicated	370:14 466:8
532:5	cocounsel 520:23	433:3 492:1 495:2	complying 380:10
<b>claim</b> 356:7	<b>cohen</b> 346:9,10	496:1	computer 443:6
369:20 370:3	390:1 491:8	communication	498:8
407:4,7 409:15,22	520:20 526:17,19	393:8 394:24	<b>concept</b> 517:12,17
410:23 411:15	526:20,25	396:19 404:4	<b>concern</b> 433:17
440:24	cohesive 392:19	491:24	447:19 468:8,19
claimed 418:2	collaboration	communications	506:8 508:21
claiming 407:15	470:24	433:7 495:22	concerned 506:16
clarification	colleagues 421:14	community	510:2
507:18	<b>collect</b> 498:10	424:12	concerning 425:21
<b>clarify</b> 377:18	collected 497:1	companies 439:18	461:4 505:6
386:2 413:25	498:16,19 499:10	company 345:2	concerns 448:5
432:19 440:20	colleges 428:20	388:11	517:21
474:1 490:9	<b>column</b> 378:23	comparing 485:7	condition 446:5
491:19,23 492:7	379:4	comparison	conditions 435:12
<b>clarity</b> 483:20	combat 388:1	486:23	<b>conduct</b> 399:17
<b>clauses</b> 473:23	combination	competencies	463:22 505:10
<b>clean</b> 521:12	484:21	432:14	507:1
clear 354:14	combinations	competency	conducted 415:4
375:14 380:25	455:4	432:17	conducting 370:20
381:2 410:4 414:3			394:25

## [confirm - corresponding]

<b>confirm</b> 395:22	continue 356:23	convene 394:23	471:10 472:25
confirmed 383:7	374:18 381:8,9,11	395:4	473:21 474:4
confirming 349:17	519:4	conversation	475:13,20 476:10
confused 498:25	continued 345:1	375:12 459:5,8	477:13 481:22
connection 429:2	346:1 347:3	480:3 490:15	482:18,24 483:12
connections	348:19	492:3 495:5	483:24 484:15
493:20	continues 350:23	519:23	485:8 486:1,9,25
consideration	374:25 376:7	conversations	489:15 490:5
435:2	continuing 426:18	433:12 492:17	492:2,8 495:3,8,10
considered 502:25	426:23 427:11,13	493:8,13,21	495:14 496:15
considers 455:10	continuity 468:25	495:24 516:2	498:3 499:8 500:3
consistency 485:6	contribution	conveyed 492:18	500:9,10,17,25
consistently 485:4	364:4,5	523:2	501:1,15 503:11
485:19,22,25	control 353:5	cook 448:15	504:20 505:9
486:8,13,17,21	392:18 447:21	coordinate 392:10	506:24 507:16
constitute 400:22	controlled 351:3	<b>copies</b> 447:16	508:15 509:17
constitutes 398:22	352:4,9,17 353:2,6	<b>copy</b> 352:23,24	510:11,23 511:20
399:24 505:15	353:17 354:18	366:14 428:23	511:22 513:8,13
519:15	355:13,23 356:12	429:10	513:20 514:2
constructed 406:7	358:6,12 369:5	corporate 350:10	515:9,22 516:22
consulting 360:19	375:24 385:5,10	352:1 384:3,3,10	517:23 518:4,5
consumed 445:23	390:18 404:16	460:10 515:8	524:4 525:21
contact 494:5	406:22 411:18	517:6,8 518:9	526:4
contain 438:3	412:16,18 418:23	corporation	corrections 530:12
contained 367:15	419:13,16,22	355:19 388:21,23	532:17
373:7 427:1	424:25 428:1	411:3,4,5 428:22	correctly 376:17
479:18	429:2 431:6,13,23	450:10 460:17	398:10 402:15
container 498:20	432:11 433:10,24	506:14,25 508:6	431:16 457:17
contains 438:7	434:25 441:13,16	514:15 517:1	468:17 487:15
<b>content</b> 351:19	441:24 442:25	<b>correct</b> 353:21	509:20
373:1,2,11,13	452:19 456:1	354:20 374:2	corresponding
374:8 380:7	459:7,16 460:21	378:2 381:15,18	353:20 371:15,17
391:17 392:8,11	465:16 468:11,13	385:14 388:7	372:3 374:22
392:13,16 428:10	476:25 477:5,9	390:24 397:12	375:2 376:10,21
430:4 432:20	478:15,16 480:10	402:8 406:25	379:13,24 380:11
contents 364:19	519:13 524:11	414:8,18 416:5	381:23 387:21
368:2 391:10	controls 353:2	428:12 432:5,12	394:1,5,10 395:2
<b>context</b> 378:18	358:11 369:5	433:4 439:22	396:15 409:6,14
380:3,22	387:23 504:11	440:1 445:14	409:21 410:21
continuation	controversy	446:24 457:25	411:13 438:13
408:23	459:14	467:21,25 470:20	439:6 453:14

# [corresponding - dealing]

454:6 456:3 463:6	<b>couple</b> 357:9	<b>cut</b> 401:20	488:13,14,16,17
463:13 519:18	512:9	cut 401.20 cuts 424:14	488:20 489:19,19
counsel 348:13,15	course 466:13	cuts 424:14 cvs 344:13,14,14	490:7,13 492:2,6
490:19 491:1	courses 426:19	344:14,14 439:5	490:7,13 492:2,6
490:19 491:1	court 343:1 348:7	485:25 494:8,14	494:19,22 496:25
	348:11 356:5	502:11	494.19,22 490.23
493:6,8,11,21,25 495:3,5,10,17,20	363:5 531:7	cwolf 344:7	499:24 501:13,19
519:24 520:17		_	501:20,20 502:23
528:25	<b>courtney</b> 344:4 <b>cover</b> 390:13	d	507:1 508:19
counter 358:4	404:18 406:24	<b>d</b> 345:12	509:10,11 511:9
362:5,9 368:20		dangerous 522:19	525:8,15,21 526:1
*	coverage 407:17 covered 507:15	data 350:19 351:7	database 509:12
<b>counties</b> 416:20,21 417:23 420:23	511:11	351:11,15,21	
		352:19 353:4	date 530:8 531:3,9
422:11 423:10,16 444:14 445:11,24	covering 469:2 covid 361:5	354:5,17 355:2	531:19 532:3,13 532:25 533:20,25
		357:3,19 358:3,16	ĺ ,
446:4,21 448:8,9	create 351:21 391:17 393:18	359:2,25 360:6,7	dated 347:19
448:12 450:6		360:12,16 361:19	390:13
453:9,24 454:4 462:21	434:11,18 470:11	361:24 362:10	dates 465:20
	484:20,22 523:11	367:1,25 368:18	david 345:4 346:9
<b>counting</b> 366:7	525:6	369:4,9,17 370:10	346:10,12
country 358:16	created 351:23	370:19 388:21	day 345:8,12
359:2,5,21,22,24	391:5,5 459:13	409:4,8 410:7,15	426:1,1 436:7
368:17 411:22	468:20	410:16 411:2,4,5	488:9 500:9,16,22
448:16,19 481:15	creating 432:25	411:18 412:14	501:4,24 504:1
county 343:16	creation 392:2	413:2,24 414:25	529:8 531:16
420:11,13 421:21	credit 452:21	415:17,20 416:24	532:22 533:22
421:22,25 422:6	critical 406:6	419:12 420:22	days 436:8 467:20
422:13,15,23	432:23 433:9	422:8 438:21	470:1 483:11,24
423:1,23 424:3,8	criticized 403:10	439:8 440:17	484:7,15,17 485:1
425:3,10,22	cross 347:3,4,6,9	444:10 445:4,15	485:12,13 530:18
434:17 439:22	348:19 421:17	446:16 447:1,5,8	dc 344:21
442:25 443:14	467:3 521:21	449:25,25 450:10	dea 355:7,11,18
444:12,18 445:1	crr 529:14	451:15 454:10,14	382:12 383:16
445:20 446:14	<b>crunching</b> 495:8	454:17,18,19,22	385:11 387:18
448:3,15,21	495:10	457:6,10 464:6	399:9,18 443:23
450:17 451:11	csa 352:12,21,24	468:1,2,3 469:24	451:25 455:22
462:24 464:10,13	354:22,25 355:3,6	470:13 471:19	457:5,8,13,14
466:7 526:3 528:2	357:2,11,15,23	472:14 477:6	475:9 523:2
528:7 529:21	362:6	478:3,4,9 484:5	dea's 393:20
531:10 532:15	csr 529:14	485:19,22 486:14	dealing 506:6
		486:20 488:12,12	509:8 516:14
		l	

[dear - disagree] Page 10

	ı		
dear 530:10	defense 527:3	depression 484:23	dictate 372:19
<b>deaths</b> 416:20	<b>defer</b> 439:14	describe 402:17	didactic 431:10
417:12,22 420:24	<b>define</b> 418:13	427:5 487:5	432:2
525:15	475:25	described 473:14	<b>died</b> 420:11
debatable 399:19	<b>defined</b> 475:5,23	describes 364:16	525:17
decide 489:4	476:2,23	describing 393:19	<b>differ</b> 398:22
506:22	defining 420:7	description 472:2	399:24 400:5
decides 406:3	487:18,21 500:2,4	492:1	difference 387:5
deciding 449:3	definition 377:21	designated 466:5	418:20 500:21
decision 384:2	393:21 476:7,8,12	desk 349:12	different 371:12
388:25 411:3,7	476:15,15	<b>detail</b> 356:19	409:19 412:8,23
430:9 447:22	definitively 458:3	493:20	434:8 440:19
450:1 467:19,23	482:13	detect 393:1	448:15 455:2
470:15,15 506:16	<b>degree</b> 364:18	410:17 453:3,3	462:12 468:14
514:5,14 516:20	<b>delved</b> 526:21,23	detecting 477:8	470:10 471:9
517:2,6,9,22	demetra 355:10	determinant 500:7	472:10 478:8
decisions 395:15	demographic	determination	487:11 510:25
declined 477:6	424:14	388:22 399:15	diligence 399:17
480:10	demographics	418:22 420:10	415:3 460:13
decrease 481:1	424:6,10,13	432:22 441:8	463:23 505:11
deed 531:14	<b>denver</b> 345:23	452:8 489:12	<b>direct</b> 368:12
532:20	department	507:4 508:6	431:14 494:5
<b>deemed</b> 530:19	530:22	determine 361:8	495:5
defendant 345:8	depending 424:11	387:7 415:9	directed 380:5
345:15 369:21	442:3 456:23	422:22 423:21	401:24
485:13 486:24,24	deponent 520:22	428:11 440:16	direction 528:19
494:8,14 502:6	527:14 528:9,21	441:25 442:22	directive 519:11
defendants 343:16	528:22	444:19 446:7	519:12
344:13 345:2,20	deposed 458:13	451:20 462:25	directly 492:20
356:6 358:21	deposition 343:9	463:3,10 508:2	493:5,8,21 496:1
407:5,15 409:3	343:13 347:14	519:15	director 391:6
422:6,10,15	348:4,9 390:8	determined	426:6 427:20,23
425:16 426:21	466:25 467:11	384:25 386:21	428:4 433:3,12
437:14 453:1,1	515:7 516:8	399:12 511:14	435:10 440:12
454:23 485:1,4,20	521:10 527:10	determining	448:1 449:17
486:9,18 499:11	528:13,17 530:8	408:13 431:5,22	directors 364:8
499:25 505:14	530:11 531:1,3	deterring 518:9	427:9 461:12
508:12 509:11,22	532:1,3	develop 435:11	disagree 381:6
510:8 519:25	depositions 425:17	developed 432:20	399:7 404:24
520:3,5 526:24	515:11	452:14	504:21
528:14			

## [disconnect - document]

disconnect 420:2,3	358:3,12,16,18	508:23	division 343:2
discovery 486:6	359:2,4,25 360:1,6	distributing 445:6	348:8 426:5
<b>discuss</b> 391:10	360:7,8,12,14,16	distribution	<b>doctor</b> 377:21
400:14 458:24	360:16,17,22	344:14 353:5	385:10 414:15
491:4	361:2,6,8,12,19,24	358:11 361:4	416:12 467:12,16
discussed 397:5	362:10,12 366:7	369:11 412:18	467:20 468:19
399:19 411:14	367:1 368:18	419:15,21	471:6,16 475:5,13
492:16	369:4,5,9,10,17	<b>district</b> 343:1,1	475:19,23,25
discusses 397:8	370:9,10,16,18	348:7,7	476:4,7,9,12,23
discussing 352:4	371:1 372:15	diversion 350:24	477:4,15,16,18,20
405:24	386:3 388:21	351:3,8 352:19	478:13 479:16,18
discussion 394:2	390:18 396:15	353:8 354:6,17	480:9,23,25 481:3
398:6,9 459:21	401:10 402:14	355:2 357:4,19	481:3,18 482:5,9
462:5,10,11,13,15	409:8 410:7,15,16	358:5,17 359:3,25	doctor's 396:9
480:21 507:4	411:2,4,18 412:18	361:15,20 362:6	397:2
discussions 459:14	413:1,23 419:15	366:12 367:2	doctors 383:15,16
459:22 460:4	419:22 424:18,21	368:19 369:17	394:15 395:24
483:7 515:24	425:8,21 429:2	370:10 383:6,6	414:9 448:7 469:8
518:3	436:20 438:21	388:2 393:2,15,20	469:14 470:6,18
disinterested	439:25 440:6,16	400:19 401:6	514:1 519:11,12
529:1	440:22 441:6	402:10 405:23	document 343:6
dispense 361:25	454:10,14,18,19	409:9 410:18	355:14 363:13,24
368:5 386:5	454:22 458:25	412:15 416:24,25	364:1 368:6
395:15,18 456:1	460:15 464:19	419:13 420:25	373:25 374:17
460:16,16,21	465:16 477:8	440:17 449:6	375:1,5 381:8,9,14
498:2	485:3,12 489:5	452:3,24 453:3	386:5,7 390:13,16
dispensed 416:19	496:17 497:13,19	454:12,13,17,20	390:20,23 391:1,5
417:11 419:20	497:21,24 498:4,6	455:10,19 456:7	391:10,17,21
425:1 445:7,19,23	499:8 504:9,10	456:17 457:6,9	392:3,8,14,19,20
446:11 453:19	507:23 509:1,2	477:10 504:20,22	392:22,25 393:6,7
469:25 483:11,24	distance 399:11	504:24 505:6,21	393:14,19,24
484:7,15 487:10	404:14 408:13	506:2 511:15	394:12 396:25
487:19 499:15	413:17 526:13,14	diverted 417:2	397:7,12 398:3
504:1 505:18	distances 404:23	419:21 420:4	401:25 402:22
510:8 522:25	distinguish 500:13	451:21 452:8	403:16,17,21
525:17	distinguished	505:18 511:18	404:2,6 405:2,3,18
dispensing 350:19	500:8	522:21	405:19,21 406:7,8
351:7,11,12,15,21	distinguishing	diverting 384:25	406:16,25 407:5
352:19 353:4,4	517:5	455:23 456:11	407:20,21,23,24
354:5,17 355:2	distributed 373:23	<b>divide</b> 520:17	407:25 408:4,5,16
356:17 357:3,18	420:12,23 444:12		429:19 430:2

[document - elsner] Page 12

	I	I	
436:24 441:5	doses 446:4	471:12	456:7 507:5 529:3
459:6,19,20 461:5	<b>dph</b> 343:9,14	dur 370:13,20	electronic 349:8
462:6 473:3	527:18 528:9	394:25 440:24	349:14 367:24
481:25 483:3	530:8 531:4,9	<b>duties</b> 409:7	electronically
490:16 502:22	532:4,13 533:20	e	368:3,8
documentation	dr 388:12,15	e 344:1,1,3 530:5	element 490:4
368:15 406:1,3,6	412:25 413:7,25	eagle 345:2 422:10	elsner 344:3 347:9
406:12,14 407:13	473:18 474:6	422:19 439:6	352:14 353:14
408:17 415:7,21	487:24 488:16	467:6 486:1 520:9	354:7,21 355:5
417:19 418:17	489:4,11,15	earlier 388:17	356:10 357:8
420:6,9 430:15	490:22 491:25	416:18 438:15	358:8,19 359:7
436:6,11,23 444:5	492:4,25 493:13	449:21 491:23	360:3,23 361:16
446:7 469:3	493:14 494:6	500:1 506:5	361:21 362:7
508:17 510:1	495:7,12,14,17,20	514:12 518:2	364:6 365:2,15,23
524:4	495:23,24 496:2	524:1	367:5 368:23
documented	501:22 512:11	early 465:24	369:23 370:5
404:17 405:25	draft 472:18,20	early 403.24 easier 364:24	371:4 373:18,21
406:2,11,23	473:13,17,22	365:18	374:16 375:4,8,13
407:16 408:14	474:3 492:15,22	easily 405:5	376:25 377:5,12
416:2 436:2 469:1	492:23,25 493:2	429:15	377:14 378:13,16
471:13 523:14,21	495:13	east 344:10,16	379:18 380:2,14
523:24 524:10	drafter 392:5	503:19,24 504:13	380:22 381:6
documenting	drafting 492:14	eastern 343:2	382:22 384:12
430:11 460:13	drafts 364:1	345:20 348:2,8	386:1,13,19
documents 349:7	drawing 445:13	edited 493:1	387:17 388:8,16
349:24 384:18	drug 367:21,22	edited 493.1 editor 372:23	389:19,24 391:11
399:10 475:23	369:10,13 370:8	373:1 374:6,6	392:9,15 393:3,22
476:1,6,22	394:20 438:4	392:6 430:4	395:25 396:10
doing 375:23	444:13 483:6,9,18	educate 381:17	397:3,17,24
382:20 393:13	483:22 486:7	education 372:9	398:24 399:8
394:6 396:8,14	487:13 496:16	426:19,23 427:11	400:1,8 401:13
432:7 464:18	499:14,22 500:4	427:13 431:10	402:5,25 405:7
495:7,10 512:23	501:3,6	432:2	406:13 407:1,8
doman 343:14	drugs 465:2,3,4	educational 434:5	408:8 409:24
348:12 528:4	466:5 484:23	eekhoff 344:5	410:9,25 411:10
529:14	due 399:17 460:13	effort 364:2	411:17,25 412:4
<b>dosage</b> 487:13	463:22 505:10	442:22 525:19	414:11,17,23
500:5 501:4,6	duly 528:10	either 349:7	415:6,18 416:4,17
509:3	dunning 346:2	415:11 421:21	417:8 418:4,25
dosages 487:23	duplicative 455:3	425:9 426:9,10	419:7,23 420:20
	470:11 471:3,10	443:13 455:21	421:3,10 422:1,7
		19.17	

[elsner - execution] Page 13

422:16 423:3,17	500:11,19 501:9	enforcing 358:10	evaluating 434:24
423:24 424:20	501:16 502:2,24	engage 449:6	437:25 442:25
425:4 426:25	503:12 504:4	<b>ensure</b> 369:9	evaluation 401:10
427:7 428:9	506:3 507:17,25	403:9 432:18	402:13
429:21 430:16	509:6,9,18 510:24	enter 501:20	evening 479:22
432:13 433:11,25	511:21 512:11,15	<b>entered</b> 497:16	event 404:5 529:4
434:13,19 435:5	512:17,21 513:14	532:9	events 368:1 369:8
435:14 436:5,19	513:21 514:10	entire 354:22	369:8
437:4,11,20 438:5	515:4,16 516:7,23	372:24 374:10	everybody 363:12
438:14,23 439:9	517:24 518:12,17	377:7 406:6 426:6	364:24,25 373:19
440:2,8,18 441:18	518:21 519:1,20	509:12 516:12	373:22
442:2,15 443:3	520:11,14 521:9	531:5 532:5	evidence 385:15
444:9 445:3,25	521:22 522:1,6,9	entirely 370:17	385:21 444:24
446:15,25 447:7	522:10,11 523:12	449:18	518:8
448:23 449:10	523:17,25 524:8	entirety 354:1	evolution 513:24
450:7 451:1,14,23	524:15,17 525:12	356:13 357:23	515:2
453:21,25 454:5	525:22 526:5,16	408:15	exact 452:13
454:15,21 455:1	526:22 527:6,9	entities 391:20,25	exactly 386:6
455:14 456:20	530:5	392:1	393:4 398:17
457:7 458:1,10	elsner's 527:1	entitled 488:14	408:16
459:2 460:9,22	email 347:19	<b>entity</b> 517:8	exam 347:1
461:23 464:3	390:13,14 490:16	envelope 373:15	432:20,20,25,25
465:13 466:12	530:17	epidemic 424:14	examination
468:5,24 469:10	emails 495:16,17	equal 424:15	343:13 347:3,4,6,7
469:16 470:8	495:19	equally 424:15	347:9,10 348:19
471:17,23 472:8	emergency 452:14	520:17	421:17 432:9
472:17,22 473:6	<b>employ</b> 529:5	errata 530:13,18	467:3 513:1
473:12,19,21	<b>employee</b> 379:9,17	532:7,10,18 533:1	521:21 526:10
474:8,13,20 475:1	380:1 462:7	erred 493:15	example 363:20
475:6,14 476:20	<b>employer</b> 379:8,16	<b>error</b> 360:17,21	412:5,6 427:21
477:22 479:9	379:25	361:11	435:8 504:6
480:11 481:23	<b>empower</b> 387:24	especially 485:6	exams 432:15
482:6,10,19,25	empowering	<b>essence</b> 395:13	exceeded 519:2
483:16 485:9,14	388:5,13	established 380:15	excellence 478:22
486:2,10,19 487:1	enclosed 530:11	507:12	excessive 446:2,11
488:1,7,19,24	encounter 398:4	evaluate 382:16	446:13,18
489:7,16 490:6,17	encroach 396:21	424:6,25 425:7,8	<b>excuse</b> 371:19
491:4 492:9	ends 365:24	441:23 507:10	389:5 522:1
494:17 495:4	enforcement	evaluated 464:11	executed 532:10
496:19 497:3	502:17 503:16,20	evaluates 464:18	execution 531:14
498:13,17 499:16			532:19

[executive - find] Page 14

			I
executive 374:6	experience 354:10	fact 380:17 416:22	feeling 460:14
391:6 392:6 426:6	359:20 371:7	440:5 443:24	<b>feels</b> 521:9
427:9,20,22 428:3	385:6 431:11	444:14 448:2	fell 418:18
430:4 433:2,12	432:3 435:9	453:1 460:2	<b>fellow</b> 379:9,17
435:9 440:12	471:25 476:11	476:12 480:13	380:1
448:1 449:16	482:14	487:22 505:8	<b>felt</b> 385:24 396:4
exercise 383:10	<b>expert</b> 350:5 478:2	506:9 508:5,10	403:12 513:12,19
384:8 449:2,22	520:4 525:19	510:4 516:11	<b>field</b> 501:13
463:6,13 513:18	expertise 453:13	525:8,21 526:4	<b>files</b> 385:16
exercised 456:24	489:4,8 497:22	<b>factor</b> 454:7	<b>fill</b> 382:11,21
exercising 379:16	expiration 531:19	factors 384:2	383:2,14,20 384:7
394:19 456:3	532:25 533:25	400:18 401:5	385:4,9,16,23
514:16 518:10	<b>expired</b> 518:21,23	402:8 424:14	386:10,17,23
519:18	<b>expires</b> 529:19	487:21 500:2,4	387:2,4,10,13
<b>exhibit</b> 347:15,17	explain 352:22	508:1	388:4,12 394:14
347:19 349:1	367:9 370:7	facts 456:18 458:5	409:14 410:2
350:6 363:1,5,8,13	377:18 474:12	factually 420:24	431:5,22 437:25
363:19 365:1	490:10 492:7,11	failed 409:3	438:10 441:12,16
373:20 374:8	509:19 521:23	463:25	449:19,24 455:12
377:4 389:1,4	explainable 405:5	failure 412:14	455:25 456:5,25
390:12 391:5	explained 354:8	419:11	459:16 460:11
392:14,25 404:12	356:15 405:11	fair 382:3 395:16	461:20 462:18
exhibited 385:7	468:9 494:2	396:9 484:13	472:21 498:23
<b>exhibits</b> 347:13,14	explanation	504:18 505:19	499:5 513:8,11,18
349:11,19 473:2,4	367:15 408:14	<b>faith</b> 386:2	514:1,5,7,21
exist 359:10 369:2	explicit 500:6	familiar 363:24	516:19,20 517:10
401:7 402:11	exponentially	434:21 514:17	517:23
existed 455:2	452:4	515:1,5 517:12,13	<b>filled</b> 376:13,24
510:4	express 370:2	517:17 519:21	384:21 438:22
existing 369:2	460:20	<b>family</b> 391:23	443:14,17,19
435:19,24	expressed 377:4	far 376:14 418:6	444:3 446:18
<b>expect</b> 422:25	extended 396:4	506:16 510:2	450:4 519:13
423:7,9 424:2	extensive 462:13	<b>faster</b> 366:16	<b>filling</b> 355:14
435:8 461:2,6,10	<b>extent</b> 378:9 397:4	fault 382:8,19	387:14 447:17
499:21 501:7	435:18 439:17	favorable 515:15	453:9 460:8 463:4
505:1 507:13	525:23	feature 487:18	463:12
expectation	f	federal 343:17	fills 427:20
486:12		357:20,22 370:15	final 350:22 364:7
expected 499:18	faced 393:10	381:22 528:16	392:7 403:17
499:24 501:2	403:4	feel 367:11 387:18	<b>find</b> 359:9 484:12
	facilitates 432:24		522:3 530:11
			0

# [finding - fumerton]

<b>finding</b> 376:13	507:9 510:6	478:18 482:2	formulas 453:5
fine 348:24 388:20	522:17,20,23	485:7 493:10	formulate 478:8
389:18	523:6,8,13,20,23	494:3 500:15,16	formulated 489:15
finish 413:12		508:19 509:22,24	forth 380:9
519:1	524:3,9 525:3,11 526:14		forward 530:15
fired 460:17,20		510:4,5,7 526:12	forwards 495:16
firm 348:10	flagged 425:13	<b>flip</b> 350:8 352:1 366:14 476:23	
	435:21,24 437:9 437:18 438:11		<b>foster</b> 393:7 <b>found</b> 379:5
349:19 522:11		floor 345:5	
first 356:3 374:14	452:9 463:25	focus 440:22	433:14,15 476:19
374:21 375:6	471:15 483:10,23	502:14	479:24 482:18
465:2,8,19 472:23	484:14 501:7,12	focused 368:16	488:18 515:21,25
473:1,1,4,7 492:20	501:14 523:5	<b>focusing</b> 493:16	foundation 381:3
494:2,14 499:17	526:3	folder 362:24	381:10
528:10	flags 351:22,23	folks 391:16	four 365:6 375:6
firsthand 463:15	355:12,15 368:6	395:20 396:7,13	422:2
fit 392:19 413:23	370:11 391:2	follow 466:1	fourth 364:20
five 377:22 389:16	393:9,15,19,21,25	<b>following</b> 368:1	375:7
422:2,9,18 479:21	394:1 396:24	503:13	frame 484:24
520:5	397:4,9,11,15,15	follows 469:25	fraud 353:8
fl 346:4	397:20,23,25	472:14 479:1	free 531:14 532:20
flag 369:19 390:17	398:2,3,5,7,8,13	<b>footnote</b> 478:24	frequency 428:15
392:2 398:22	398:16,17 399:11	479:1,2 481:8	front 348:25 349:4
399:2,11,16,17,25	399:18 400:2,6,13	foregoing 528:13	350:2 353:15
406:4 408:10	401:5 402:9 403:3	531:13 532:18	363:16 373:25
413:5,15,18,23	404:24,25 405:4	<b>form</b> 357:11	390:20 417:24
415:14,23 416:23	405:21 407:21	403:18 472:16	<b>fulfill</b> 409:21
420:18 421:9	408:1,6 409:10	487:13 490:24	410:21 411:12
443:18 444:1,4,6	411:19 412:23,25	491:2,3 507:15	fulfilling 409:6
451:21 452:2	417:20 429:20	523:7,22 524:6,14	519:17
455:16 464:1	430:2,8,11 431:12	<b>formal</b> 391:12	fumerton 345:9
468:21 469:1,3	432:11 433:24	431:9 432:1	347:8 365:20
471:1,15 472:5	436:13 444:6	<b>format</b> 375:15	389:7,12,22
474:18 486:16	446:8 447:9,12	428:12 494:19,22	491:10 512:1,14
487:9,17 489:15	452:1,17 453:3,14	<b>former</b> 448:1	512:16 513:2,16
489:17,22,24	454:6,16 455:7,16	462:7	513:23 514:19
490:11 492:2,8	455:18,19 456:10	<b>forms</b> 356:13	515:6,20 516:16
494:13 499:12,19	459:7 461:5 462:6	367:16 369:3	517:4 518:1,15,17
499:25 500:2,7	465:3 466:4 469:6	370:17	518:18,20,24
501:5,8 502:20	469:7,22,23	<b>formula</b> 451:20	519:7,8,22,24
503:1,5 505:9,10	471:24 472:3	452:6	521:15,25 522:2,8
506:10,21,24	473:14,14 474:12		523:7,22 524:14

[fumerton - health] Page 16

	I		
524:19 527:7	448:24 449:15	363:11 371:15	guessing 394:16
further 369:6	450:14 451:9,17	373:18,22 374:16	guidance 368:12
399:17 401:10	452:5 453:23	377:17 380:14	372:8 396:13
402:13 490:10	454:2,9,24 455:8	381:8 382:5 385:4	399:10 426:15
492:7 519:25	456:2,22 457:11	389:1,23 390:4,9	443:22 449:17,21
524:17 527:14	458:6,14 459:3	398:15 401:14,17	450:2 451:18,24
529:1	460:18,24 462:3	403:23 407:19,22	461:3
g	464:7 465:22	407:24 421:13	<b>guide</b> 429:14
gbush 344:18	466:16 521:5	467:1,6 474:3	511:23
0	524:25 525:1,13	477:3 478:7 491:6	guidelines 460:7
<b>general</b> 420:8 421:4 461:7	525:18,24 526:8	491:15 496:7,10	<b>guides</b> 349:15
	give 356:22 378:5	504:16 512:3,6,8	h
497:14,25 524:12 generally 444:24	397:9 412:5 417:9	512:16 513:4,4	<b>h</b> 344:10
generally 444:24 467:25 468:4	417:13,21 472:16	516:12 518:24	
	473:11 474:6,11	519:4 521:16,19	hamilton 343:16
497:7,9,11 507:14	488:17,22 489:22	522:3,13 524:20	528:2,7 529:21
524:2	given 359:20	524:23 526:18	hand 389:8 529:8
generates 452:20	468:19 473:22,22	527:11	handled 453:15
geographic 422:22	490:3 514:20	<b>good</b> 348:1,21,22	hands 434:7
422:25 423:11,12	518:22 520:4	366:17 386:2	handy 429:14
423:15	521:7 528:21	421:19 491:18	happen 451:7,8
getting 406:20	<b>giving</b> 356:21	520:22	happened 403:1
giant 345:2 422:10	384:5 504:6	<b>gotten</b> 501:12	493:22
422:19 439:6	<b>glad</b> 359:8	government	happening 403:12
467:6 486:1 520:9	<b>go</b> 349:24 350:1,14	466:13	522:5
gisleson 345:17	356:1,1 358:1	graduating 428:21	hard 445:15
347:5 421:18,20	366:14 371:11	graeme 344:16	harm 522:22
422:4,12,20 423:6	375:14 400:25	grant 345:13	523:11 525:6
423:19 424:1,21	412:7 421:6	great 349:6 350:5	harmed 525:9,16
424:23 425:6	438:15 459:23	greater 418:6	525:21 526:4
427:4,15 428:14	466:19 482:11	grid 494:25	harmful 522:19
429:24 430:18	491:6,9,11 496:5	group 391:13,16	harms 504:25
432:16 433:19	512:2 520:12	395:5 397:22	hart 458:7,17
434:10,15,23	521:1,13 522:20	398:5 403:1,5	459:4,14 460:1
435:7,16 436:15	526:22 527:9	groups 391:20	461:2,6,15,19,25
437:1,7,16,22	goes 364:12	393:9,10 394:2	462:11
438:9,20 439:2,20	388:17 402:17	403:12	hart's 462:9
440:4,11 441:10	434:6 456:12	guarantees 463:4	hbc 345:2 494:9
441:20 442:8,16	goetz 345:12	463:11	494:15
442:20 443:5	going 348:1	guess 371:10	health 435:12
444:17 445:12	349:23 362:25	407:22	475:4
446:9,23 447:3,14	379.43 304.43	701.44	
L	1	1	

## [heard - incorporated]

heard   368:14   hearing   463:20   held   348:9   379:7   387:20   help   353:12   420:14   423:4   424:22   436:12   424:18   453:3, 3   508:17   helped   481:1   490:9, 9   492:7   helping   393:1 helps   477:7   hereunto   529:7 hi   467:5 high   504:8 higher   452:23 highway   399:21 hiland   515:8,13   516:1 hit   420:18 hold   381:24 holiday   504:13 holy   486:16 home   517:9,21 hour   389:16,19,23   488:51,0,10   489:5   499:24   479:24   488:51,0,10   489:5   499:24   499:25   499:24   499:25   499:24   499:25   499:24   499:25   499:24   499:25   499:24   499:25   499:10,12   500:1   500:15,21,23,24   500:15,21,23,25   500:15,21,23,24   500:15,21,23,25   500:15,21,23,25   500:15,21,23,24   500:15,21,23,25   500:15,21,23,25   500:15,21,23,24   500:15,21,23,25   500:	•			•
held 348:9 379:7   387:20   375:25   446:12 447:5   455:1:10,18 453:6   455:4 459:18   455:7 457:5   503:1,1 504:23   508:20 470:9   471:4 472:1   470:9,9 492:7   helping 393:1 helps 477:7 helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 502:2 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 improperly 386:10 inadequate 521:8 imagine 359:13 impact 443:23 iimpact 464:5 482:1 impact 464:19 impact 464:19 impact 464:19 impact 464:19 importation 367:19 implemented 368:21 370:3 398:13 403:21 406:14 470:14 included 369:14 included 369:14 included 369:14 included 369:14 included 369:14 included 369:14 included 3	<b>heard</b> 368:14	hpc 486:1	429:25 439:1	important 372:15
387:20	<b>hearing</b> 463:20	hundred 416:21	440:17 443:13	373:6 380:22
i daho 518:16,19 519:3,9 idea 434:20 442:18 453:3,3 508:17 helped 481:1 490:9,9 492:7 helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hid 420:14 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:14,215,17,20,20 389:18,399:18 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:14,215,17,20,20 485:6 493:18 503:1,1 504:23 510:3 469:20 470:9 471:4 472:1 474:19 508:20 525:7,20 526:2 identified 374:5 identified 374:5 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 iil 345:10 iil legally 454:4 iillegitimate 385:24 41:21,13 450:8 454:16 469:22 471:24 501:8,14,18,23 552:19 353:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  485:6 493:18 503:1,1 504:23 508:20 510:3,3 511:23 512:17 imposed 520:2 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 iimposence 443:23 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 iil legally 45:4 iillegitimate 385:24 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 398:3 404:13 450:20 398:13 400:6 iimplement 364:17 387:12 implement 364:17 387:12 implementation 363:8 373:20 386:10 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 imposition 462:17 improperly 386:10 indeduate 521:8 inappropriate 450:20 iidentifying 353:12 446:245:19 ifs 400:6 ignorance 443:23 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 iil 420:19 450:20 iidentifying 353:12 460:21 iidentifying 353:12 460:21 iidentifying 353:12 460:20 iidentifying 363:10 iidentifying 363:10 iidentifying 363:10 iidentifying 363:10 iidentifying 363:10 iidentifying 363:10 iide	held 348:9 379:7	hydrocodone	446:12 447:5	393:1 403:14
420:14 423:4	387:20	375:25	451:10,18 453:6	405:24 459:18
420:14 423:4	help 353:12	i	454:11,12,20	485:6 493:18
442:12 436:12 442:18 453:3,3 508:17 helped 481:1 490:9,9 492:7 helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  hours 436:7,519:6  403:23 4049:20 470:9 471:4 472:1 imposed 520:2 identifying 353:12 identifying 353:12 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposed 520:2 identifying 353:12 imposition 462:17 improper 464:19 imposed 520:2 identifying 353:12 identifying 353:12 ifs 400:6 ignorance 443:23 ii 343:10 iil 345:10 iil	420:14 423:4		455:7 457:5	503:1,1 504:23
dea   434:20   493:23   identifiable   474:19   508:20   imposed   520:2   imposition   462:17   imposed   520:2   imposition   462:17   imposed   520:2   imposition   462:17   imposed   52:17   imposed   52:18   imposed   52:	424:22 436:12		463:24 464:4	508:20 510:3,3
508:17 helped 481:1 490:9,9 492:7 helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:2 471:24 525:8 dentifies 374:5 dentifies 374:5 dentified	442:18 453:3,3	1	469:20 470:9	511:23 512:17
helped 481:1	508:17		471:4 472:1	imposed 520:2
490:9,9 492:7 helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi dentification 363:8 373:20 389:4 identified 374:5 identified 374:5 iignorance 443:23 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 46:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 impact 464:5 469:22 471:24 501:8,14,18,23 550:1,24 351:8 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi dentification 363:8 373:20 389:4 identified 374:5 iignorance 443:23 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 46:9,16 417:5,7 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 impact 464:5 482:1 impacts 517:14 implementation 367:19 iis 400:6 iin 343:10 ii 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 46:9,16 417:5,7 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 406:24 41:21 412:3,22 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 406:14 482:1 impacts 517:14 implementation 366:25 369:21 370:3 398:13 403:21 406:14 470:14 iincluded 368:21 470:14 iinplementation 366:25 369:21 368:25 409:16,23 470:14 470:18,22 includes 429:11 470:18,22 including 372:16 importance 443:23 ii 343:10 ii 345:10 ii 345:10 ii 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 481:1,3 iii 480:10 ii 345:10 iil 481:1,3 iii 481:1,3 iinclude 369:9 398:3 404:13 400:2 466:4 41:2 1412:3,22 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 418:3,12 420:19 450:20	<b>helped</b> 481:1		474:19 508:20	_
helping 393:1 helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 499:4496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hereus 436:7 519:6 hereunto 529:7 hidentification 363:8 373:20 389:4 identified 374:5 397:22 398:8,16 398:18 399:18 400:2 406:4 411:21 412:3,22 413:5,7,22,25 413:5,7,22,25 413:5,7,22,25 413:5,7,22,25 413:5,7,22,25 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 iii 343:10 ii 343:10 ii 343:10 ii 343:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iil 4619,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 482:1 impact 464:5 482:1 impact 521:8 iinappropriate 505:16 513:12 516:4 iincidence 477:18 481:1,3 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 406:15 410:14,15 482:1 impacts 517:14 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 389:24 487:5,11 467:5,722,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6	_		525:7,20 526:2	_
helps 477:7 hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 hore signorance 443:23 ii 343:10 iil 345:10 iil 481:1,3 iil 480:1,3 iil 480:1,3 iil 481:1,3 iil 481:1,3 iil 480:1,3 iil 481:1,3 iil 480:1,3 iil 481:1,3 iil 481:1,	· ·		· ·	
hereunto 529:7 hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hildand 515:8,13 516:1 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 hours 446:2 holidal 348:10 hit 420:18 holidal 348:13 holy 486:16 hours 446:5 hit 400:2 406:4 hit 1934:10 hit 40:2 406:4 hit 1934:10 hit 40:2 406:4 hit 69:2 471:24 hit 6	1 0			
hi 467:5 high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,224 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hour 436:7 519:6 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 490:1,2,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,13,10,13,13,13,10,13,13,10,	_		ifs 400:6	inadequate 521:8
high 504:8 higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hitand 548:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 home 517:9,21 footing fill 345:10 iii 343:10 iii 345:10 iil 345:10 iilegally 454:4 iilegitimate 385:24 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 482:1 impacts 517:14 implement 364:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 iii 343:10 iil 345:10 iil 345:10 iilegally 454:4 iilegitimate 385:24 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 406:15 410:14,15 481:1,3 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 406:15 410:14,15 482:1 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 382:20 386:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 iii 343:10 iil 345:10 iilegally 454:4 iilegitimate 385:24 416:9,16 417:5,7 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 406:15 410:14,15 468:21 469:8,14 470:14 implement 364:17 370:3 398:13 403:21 406:14 470:14 implementation 367:19 438:20 358:10 358:10 369:6,17 370:10				_
higher 452:23 highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hour 436:7 519:6 hour 436:7 519:6 hour 436:7 519:6 hour 389:18 399:18 hour 400:2 406:4 h11:21 412:3,22 h13:5,7,22,25 h12:4 38:21 h13:45:9,416 h13:40:9,16 417:5,7 h13:40:9,16 417:5,7 h13:40:9,16 417:5,7 h13:41:19 illegitimate 385:24 h13:3,12 420:19 h13:45:10 illegally 454:4 illegitimate 385:24 h13:3,12 420:19 h13:3,12 420:19 h13:3,12 420:19 h13:40:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 h26:2 447:12,13 h25:8 identifies 355:6 h20:2 471:24 h20:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 h26:2 447:14 implement 364:17 h26:20 implement 364:17 h27:14 implementation 366:25 369:21 370:3 398:13 h26:2 400:14,15 h26:20 h27:14 h27:14 h27:14 h27:14 h27:14 h27:14 h28:1,3 h29:3 40:13 h29:3 40:13 h20:20 h29:3 40:13 h29:3 40:13 h20:20 h29:3 40:13 h20:13 h20:20 h20:13 h20:14:14:13 h20:20 h20:14:3 45:10 h20:14:15 h20:20 h20:15 h20:15 h20:15 h20:16 h20:15 h20:16 h20:17 h20:18 h20:19 h20				
highway 399:21 hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7,519:6 hours 3436:7,519:6 hours 349:10:14;15 hit 420:18 hold 411:21 412:3,22 hold 416:9,16 417:5,7 hit 46:9,16 417:5,7 hit 446:9,16 417:5,7 hit 46:9,16 417:5,7 hit				
hiland 515:8,13 516:1 hildahl 348:10 history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hour 436:7 519:6 hour 436:7 519:6 hour 369:9 398:3 404:13 418:3,12 420:19 450:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 482:1 impact 464:5 482:1 impacts 517:14 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 382:20 386:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:30:1,24 35:18 include 369:9 398:3 404:13 406:15 410:14,15 468:21 469:8,14 470:14 included 368:21 370:3 398:13 403:21 406:14 470:14 implement 364:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implication 381:6 implementation 367:19 implementation 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implication 381:6 implementation 367:19 implementation 368:25 409:16,23 470:18,22 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 importance 406:1				
516:1       411:21:412:3,22       416:9,16:417:5,7       398:3:404:13         history 436:11       435:21:438:21       446:2:447:12,13       450:8:454:16       450:8:454:16       450:8:454:16       450:8:454:16       450:8:454:16       450:8:454:16       469:22:471:24       482:1       470:14				
hildahl       348:10         history       436:11         hit       420:18         hold       381:24         holiday       504:13         holy       486:16         home       517:9,21         hour       389:16,19,23         389:24 487:5,11       455:16         487:17,20,25       498:5,10,10 489:5         490:4 496:25       497:7,12,15,17,20         498:2,10,15 499:7       358:5,15,17,20,20         499:10,12 500:1       359:12,23,24         500:15,21,23,24       359:1,2,23,25         501:8,14,18,23       369:6,17 370:10         hours       436:7,519:6				·
history 436:11 hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 hold 381:24 466:2 447:12,13 450:80 450:20 imagine 359:13 impact 464:5 482:1 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 382:20 386:17 366:25 369:21 382:20 386:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implementation 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementation 368:25 409:16,23 400:15,410:14,15 431:12 456:17 468:21 469:8,14 470:14 included 368:21 370:3 398:13 403:21 406:14 407:17 414:1 415:7,22 421:8 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementation 367:19 475:7 476:1 507:3 525:20 530:13 includes 429:11 470:18,22 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 incorporated				
hit 420:18 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 holy 486:16 home 517:9,21 hour 389:16,19,23 389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 hold 381:24 holiday 504:13 450:8 454:16 456:6 457:9 465:4 469:22 471:24 525:8 identifies 355:6 400:12,13 455:9 455:16 identify 348:13 350:1,24 351:8 352:19 353:8 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 hours 436:7 519:6 hold 381:24 450:8 454:16 456:6 457:9 465:4 469:22 471:24 525:8 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 366:25 369:21 382:20 386:17 387:12 implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 359:13 468:21 469:8,14 470:14 470:14 470:14 470:14 110:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:10:			· ·	
hold       381:24       450:8 454:16       456:6 457:9 465:4       469:22 471:24       469:22 471:24       470:14         holy       486:16       469:22 471:24       4525:8       identifies       355:6       400:12,13 455:9       455:16       400:12,13 455:9       366:25 369:21       370:3 398:13       403:21 406:14       407:17 414:1       370:3 398:13       407:17 414:1				
holiday       504:13         holy       486:16         home       517:9,21         hour       389:16,19,23         389:24 487:5,11       487:17,20,25         488:5,10,10 489:5       490:4 496:25         490:4 496:25       497:7,12,15,17,20         498:2,10,15 499:7       352:19 353:8         499:10,12 500:1       350:1,24 351:8         500:15,21,23,24       359:1,2,23,25         501:8,14,18,23       369:6,17 370:10         436:7 519:6				
holy       486:16         home       517:9,21         hour       389:16,19,23         389:24 487:5,11       487:17,20,25         488:5,10,10 489:5       490:4 496:25         497:7,12,15,17,20       498:2,10,15 499:7         499:10,12 500:1       350:1,24 351:8       352:19 353:8         350:1,24 351:8       352:19 353:8         352:12 357:4,19       358:5,15,17,20,20         359:1,2,23,25       367:1 368:19         369:6,17 370:10    impacts 517:14 implement 364:17 366:25 369:21 387:12 387:12 403:21 406:14 407:17 414:1 415:7,22 421:8 427:10 436:2 443:8 463:17 475:7 476:1 507:3 525:20 530:13 included 368:21 360:25 369:21 405:11 407:17 414:1 415:7,22 421:8 427:10 436:2 443:8 463:17 475:7 476:1 507:3 525:20 530:13 includes 429:11 470:18,22 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 including 372:16 409:7 448:20			_	
home       517:9,21         hour       389:16,19,23         389:24 487:5,11       400:12,13 455:9         487:17,20,25       455:16         488:5,10,10 489:5       490:4 496:25         497:7,12,15,17,20       352:19 353:8         499:10,12 500:1       352:19 353:8         501:8,14,18,23       359:1,2,23,25         501:8,14,18,23       369:6,17 370:10         369:6,17 370:10       implement 364:17         366:25 369:21       366:25 369:21         382:20 386:17       407:17 414:1         415:7,22 421:8       427:10 436:2         438:463:17       475:7 476:1 507:3         368:25 409:16,23       410:6,24 411:16         368:25 409:16,23       470:18,22         367:1 368:19       358:10         369:6,17 370:10       implication 381:6         369:6,17 370:10       importance 406:1	_			
hour       389:16,19,23         389:24 487:5,11       400:12,13 455:9         487:17,20,25       455:16         488:5,10,10 489:5       350:1,24 351:8         490:4 496:25       352:19 353:8         497:7,12,15,17,20       354:6,17,25 355:2         499:10,12 500:1       358:5,15,17,20,20         500:15,21,23,24       359:1,2,23,25         501:8,14,18,23       369:6,17 370:10         366:25 369:21       403:21 406:14         407:17 414:1       415:7,22 421:8         427:10 436:2       443:8 463:17         475:7 476:1 507:3       525:20 530:13         implementing       358:10         implementing       358:10         implementing       470:18,22         including       372:16         409:7 448:20       409:7 448:20			_	
389:24 487:5,11 487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  hours 436:7 519:6  382:20 386:17 387:12  implementation 367:19 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10			_	
487:17,20,25 488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 455:16 identify 348:13 350:1,24 351:8 352:19 353:8 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 387:12 implementation 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10		· ·		
488:5,10,10 489:5 490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  hours 436:7 519:6  identity 348:13 350:1,24 351:8 350:1,24 351:8 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10  implementation 367:19 427:10 436:2 443:8 463:17 475:7 476:1 507:3 525:20 530:13 includes 429:11 470:18,22 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 incorporated				
490:4 496:25 497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  490:4 496:25 352:19 353:8 352:19 353:8 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19  443:8 463:17 475:7 476:1 507:3 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 369:6,17 370:10	, ,			· ·
497:7,12,15,17,20 498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 352:19 353:8 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 implemented 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 369:6,17 370:10				
498:2,10,15 499:7 499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 354:6,17,25 355:2 355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 368:25 409:16,23 410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implementing 372:16 409:7 448:20 importance 406:1				
499:10,12 500:1 500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2  hours 436:7 519:6  355:12 357:4,19 358:5,15,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10  410:6,24 411:16 implementing 358:10 implication 381:6 implication 381:6 importance 406:1 importance 406:1			_	
500:15,21,23,24 501:8,14,18,23 520:2 hours 436:7 519:6 358:3,13,17,20,20 359:1,2,23,25 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 358:10 implementing 372:16 470:18,22 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 importance 406:1	, ,			
501:8,14,18,23 520:2 367:1 368:19 369:6,17 370:10 358:10 implication 381:6 importance 406:1 including 372:16 409:7 448:20 incorporated				
520:2 implication 381:6 409:7 448:20 importance 406:1 incorporated				· ·
hours 436:7510:6 369:6,1/3/0:10 importance 406:1 incorporated				
	hours 436:7 519:6		importance 406:1	incorporated
521.7 521.74 522.15 522.12		393:15 394:3		_
409:8 412:6,11				3
414:15 417:1		414:15 417:1		

# [incorporating - investigate]

incorporating	438:16,18 441:9	492:5,21,23,24	intended 469:14
461:9	451:15 452:2	493:4,12,14	470:6,9
incorporation	464:4 509:11	499:15 506:13	<b>intent</b> 381:17
387:23	514:9 516:14	508:25 509:4,25	intentionally
increase 448:21	517:15	509:25 511:24	451:11
452:4	individually	516:15 523:1	interact 484:24
increased 477:4	506:24 508:14	informative	interacted 359:13
480:9 484:22	509:17 510:11,12	502:23	492:19
independent 379:8	510:22	initials 438:25	interactions
383:10,22,24	individuals 444:20	initiated 465:20	359:21 403:13
384:9,15,24 385:3	indulgence 377:6	<b>input</b> 450:11	481:14 515:23
385:22 386:11,21	industry 441:11	453:16	interested 428:25
387:24 388:5,7,14	445:7,16 452:7	inquiry 396:8	476:19 529:4
399:14 442:13	479:16 511:7,9	519:5	interesting 489:10
449:23 514:17	inference 445:13	inserted 492:21,25	490:12
517:3 518:10	445:15	494:7,11,15,18	interfere 383:21
index 347:1,13	influenced 384:2	495:13	interfered 386:11
<b>indiana</b> 343:16	information	insisted 382:15	463:5,12
344:14 528:1,8	350:24 358:4	inspection 464:9	interfering 394:18
529:21	361:20,22,24	464:18	463:21
indicate 380:25	362:4,11 373:7	inspections 439:21	interject 511:25
401:9 402:12	378:5 380:4 383:3	439:25	interpretation
420:24 434:3	383:18 396:3	instituting 358:10	354:10 367:19
445:5,9 525:15	409:4 410:1 411:7	<b>instruct</b> 440:13	368:11 406:8
indicated 446:16	412:15 415:10	441:1 447:15	476:3 478:17
454:16 468:1,3	416:18 419:12	488:16	interpreted
476:2	426:15 427:1	instructed 459:11	355:18
indicates 416:23	429:12 430:23	462:1 469:20	interpreting 434:7
indicating 530:13	434:2 436:1,3,24	474:24	interrupting
indicative 400:18	436:25 437:2,6	instruction 486:12	520:22,23 521:2
401:6 402:9	438:3,7,24,25	488:22 490:3	interruption
504:20,22 505:21	439:16 440:25	instructions	371:24
506:2	442:23 443:2	461:20	introduce 362:25
indirectly 496:1	446:6 448:6	insurance 404:17	363:12 389:1
individual 356:14	449:12,12 451:25	406:2,11,23 407:6	invalid 450:20
377:8 392:16	453:16 456:16,18	407:14,17 503:4,6	inventory 506:13
395:8 397:4 403:2	463:14,16 472:7	507:16 511:11	investigate 351:1
411:1 412:7 414:4	476:11 479:18,19	integrate 361:5	351:16 423:14
414:24 415:2,9	480:1,16,23	integrated 493:1	435:17 442:11
417:4 426:4	481:12 489:13,19	<b>intend</b> 499:11	455:24
427:12 428:10,23	490:7,18,19,22,25		

# [investigated - kobrin]

investigated	462:9,11	justified 514:25	knowingly 443:19
385:12	january 486:6	k	443:22 444:3
investigation	<b>jason</b> 344:20	kaitlyn 344:5	knowledge 371:1
422:21 423:20	jdgoetz 345:14	keekhoff 344:8	433:20 442:11,23
424:18 426:18	jeopardize 451:5,6	keep 513:6	443:15,20 447:4
439:14 444:19	jledlie 344:8	kept 367:25	448:1 461:10
445:20 448:11	<b>job</b> 432:7	kills 456:13	471:25 496:2
453:8	<b>john</b> 345:12,17	kind 468:8	knowledgeable
investigators	347:5 421:18,19	knew 457:23	461:7
433:13	525:1	490:22 518:2	known 435:25
invoices 492:16	john.gisleson	know 354:24	443:25
<b>involve</b> 457:24	345:19	360:11,11 361:23	knows 432:18
involved 380:16	jonathan 346:8	362:13,15 374:10	kobrin 345:4,7
383:4 409:9	jones 345:8,12	374:14 375:16	347:6,11 466:19
458:11	jonesday.com	380:4,8 389:8,13	467:4,5 468:7
involvement 475:8	345:11,14	389:16 397:14	469:5,13,19
involving 368:1	<b>josh</b> 466:17 467:5	400:12 403:14	470:16 471:20
459:8	513:3 520:21	407:2 414:22	472:4,11,19,24
issue 394:21,24	526:9	415:5,16 416:1,3	473:8,16,20,24
401:9 402:13	joshua 345:4	416:12,13 421:24	474:2,9,15,22
430:5 442:9 460:5	347:6,11 467:4	422:5,13 426:1	475:2,10,16
460:7 500:1 516:9	526:11	430:9,20 432:10	476:21 477:23
520:18	judge 509:14	432:23 433:9	479:11 480:5,6,12
issued 428:5,8	520:15	436:10 437:5	482:3,7,16,22
429:25 430:13,21	judging 505:17	447:18 454:3	483:4,17 485:11
434:25 443:23	judgment 379:8	457:23 458:7,11	485:16 486:4,15
450:17 451:11,18	379:16 381:24,25	460:2,25 461:2,7	486:22 487:3
518:7	383:10,22,25	461:25 464:12	488:4,8,21 489:1
issues 372:18	384:9,16,24 385:3	470:14,17,21	489:14,21 490:14
450:9 456:9 460:3	385:23 386:12,21	471:1 474:17	490:21 491:5,11
460:10 464:10	388:6,7,14 399:15	479:7 480:13	491:17 492:12
516:13 521:12	449:3,23,23	481:2 490:19	494:21 495:6
issuing 447:5	456:24 491:8	491:1 493:7,9	496:5,12,21 497:6
iteration 375:2,9	513:18 514:7,17	496:25 497:7,9,11	498:14,22 499:20
j	517:3,15 518:11	497:14,23,24	500:14,20 501:10
jacton 344:22	judgments 387:25	498:1,6,10,15	501:17 502:4
jaffe 346:8	<b>june</b> 343:17 348:3	506:20 515:11,13	503:8,15 504:7
james 344:4	390:9 467:1	516:8 520:6	506:19 507:20
james 544.4 janet 458:7,17	528:15 529:9	knowing 428:25	508:9 509:7,13
459:4,14,25 461:2	530:4	439:10 443:24	510:9 511:3 512:8
461:6,15,19,25		451:12	512:13,19,22
TU1.U,1J,1J,4J		TJ1.12	

[kobrin - lpa] Page 20

	204 22 42 2 2 4 2		
520:8,19 526:11	381:22 427:9,16	level 351:22	llp 344:9,15 345:3
526:18,23 527:2	427:17,19 429:12	357:24 367:14	345:16,21
<b>kraig</b> 348:10	431:2	369:18 417:1	local 424:11
1	<b>lawsuit</b> 453:12	507:7 515:25	455:22
lacked 443:16	<b>lawyer</b> 521:9	levels 464:11	lodge 380:14
451:12 461:22	<b>lawyers</b> 437:10	levin 346:2	520:1,9
lacking 418:17	453:15	levinlaw.com	logical 451:7
lake 420:11	lay 381:3,10	346:5,5	long 382:11
421:21,25 422:6	ldunning 346:5	lewis 345:16	404:14,23 441:12
423:1,10,16,22	lead 373:3	<b>liber</b> 344:9	441:15,22 459:16
424:3,8 425:2,9,21	<b>leading</b> 376:22	license 427:21	471:9 514:25
434:17 439:22	497:19	432:5 451:5	longer 442:6
442:24 443:13	learned 443:2	licensed 351:6,10	look 364:19
444:12,18,25	leave 376:23	351:14 431:8,25	365:18 371:12
445:19,23 446:14	<b>led</b> 435:12 489:22	432:10	374:4,21 382:4
448:3,7,15,20	<b>ledlie</b> 344:4	licensees 447:25	400:11 412:8
450:5,16 451:10	<b>left</b> 447:23 491:19	licensure 432:8	413:15 414:3
453:24 454:4	493:19	433:23	415:2,13 416:11
462:21,24 464:9	legal 348:10	life 451:6	438:16 439:25
464:12 466:7	492:14,19 493:21	limit 520:2	453:13 454:6,7
526:2	493:25 519:17	limited 409:7	463:19 464:14,22
lakeside 344:10	530:1 533:1	455:6	464:23 478:4,5
language 403:20	legitimacy 376:16	limiting 359:5	484:11 489:25
large 375:23 439:4	legitimate 370:22	<b>limits</b> 463:3,11	509:12 510:10,11
528:8	375:25 385:2	line 519:5 530:13	511:23 521:1
	406:5 434:25	532:7 533:3	looked 353:24
larger 422:18 423:10 507:1	441:25 443:16,20	lines 396:18 404:3	361:14 384:19
late 382:9	446:5,19,21 447:6	list 384:20 438:11	386:2 422:8 439:1
latitude 518:22	450:18,23,25	502:6,15	465:6 489:9
launched 349:18	451:12 453:11	listed 391:20,25	509:17
laura 346:2	461:22 505:4,5,6	463:24 501:13	looking 374:8
	505:12 506:7,18	510:17 532:7,17	461:9 467:7 481:5
law 352:5,10,12	506:21,22 508:3,7	listing 532:7	502:12 505:13
357:17,20,20,22	510:15 511:15,18	litigation 343:5	506:4 508:10,13
369:1,2 427:2,5,8	511:20 523:10	348:6 404:22	508:14 514:8
427:13,19,25	525:5	530:6 531:3 532:3	looks 452:16 508:2
428:5,7,16,18	letter 372:24	little 365:20	<b>lost</b> 401:12 512:1,1
429:1,4,13,15,17	381:21 530:19	442:16	<b>lot</b> 359:14 412:23
429:19,23 432:20	<b>letters</b> 372:24	live 427:14	lower 500:9
466:10,13 522:11	447:11,16	llc 344:3,14,14,14	<b>lpa</b> 346:10
laws 370:15	,		
372:18 381:17,22			

[m - michael] Page 21

	may's 375:20	measures 477:4,15	463:5,12 465:11
m	mccann 412:25	477:16 480:9	478:11 487:23
<b>m</b> 344:20	413:7,25 469:11	measuring 481:2	490:1 498:20
machines 366:8	469:20 471:21,25	481:18	522:20
madam 530:10	473:3,11,13,18,18	mechanics 360:11	medicine 394:18
main 500:21	474:6 485:21	media 348:3	396:22 449:9
503:19,24 504:13	487:24 488:16,20	349:14 390:7	meet 358:22
maintain 350:18	489:4,11,15	466:24	367:25 396:14
353:1 429:10	490:22 491:25	medical 370:22	434:4
436:17,24	490.22 491.23	376:1 385:2,12	meeting 394:12,23
maintained	493:6,13,14,24	420:19 425:12	480:21
437:24		435:1 441:25	
making 379:7	494:6 495:3,7,12		meetings 460:4 meets 480:18
407:7 410:16	495:14,17,20,24	443:16,21 446:5	
516:20 517:21	mccann's 470:15	447:6 448:11	melsner 344:7 member 390:14
manage 447:24	489:8 495:23	449:14 450:18,23	
management	496:2 501:22	450:25 451:13	458:21 461:12
361:4 446:22	md 343:3 344:17	453:11 455:21	members 463:18
mandate 383:14	348:8	461:22 468:22	memory 360:4
465:5	mdl 343:3	469:9,15 470:7,18	mentioned 375:21
mandated 465:17	mean 355:19	478:23 479:19	514:12
466:3,5	359:12 363:2	505:12 523:10	merit 343:14
mandating 387:3	389:14 398:2	525:5	528:5
478:23	402:22 423:4	medically 477:7	met 391:9 404:2
mandatory 465:2	424:22 434:7	medication 358:18	501:25
465:9	500:12	359:4 360:2	methodologies
march 390:13	meaning 393:23	370:21 385:1	453:5
marcus 345:3,6,7	means 351:20	400:17 443:15	methodology
mark 363:6	407:2 420:8	445:1 446:1,10	451:20 452:6
marked 362:24	450:19 495:19	449:4 450:17	methods 350:18
363:8 373:15,20	502:19	522:18,19	metric 464:13
389:4 390:12	meant 383:25	medications	467:16 468:3,20
market 345:17	420:7 512:13	372:16 385:1	472:5 475:20,21
497:20	513:17	395:15 396:16	477:20 478:9
master 346:10	measure 467:19	419:19 435:13	485:18,24 486:7
390:1 491:8	475:12 477:24	438:1 442:5	488:5 526:14
520:20 526:17,19	479:16 482:8	444:21 445:19,22	metrics 384:3
526:20,25	483:8,21,23 485:3	446:22 448:13	459:18 462:18
match 398:17	485:12	449:20 451:22	463:21 478:11
matter 348:5	measured 482:5	453:10 454:3	michael 344:3
455:20 458:13	487:5	455:5,23 456:12	347:9 462:7
528:12		458:25 461:21	521:22 522:11
J20.12			

[michael - notary] Page 22

	I	I	I
530:5	364:11,15,21	451:18 461:3,9,12	427:3 434:4 441:5
<b>middle</b> 350:13	365:6 367:13,17	461:17 463:14,18	464:25
374:13	367:18 368:22,24	463:19 465:8,14	needs 390:1
<b>midway</b> 350:17	369:1,6 370:1,4	466:1,13 480:17	506:11 523:6,8
midwest 530:17	371:20 441:2	nabp's 373:13	525:3
533:1	449:21	461:8 466:10	<b>negate</b> 443:24
mike 380:19 381:5	moment 496:6	nacds 502:14,25	never 461:17,17
473:20 521:25	512:2	504:13	492:19 493:24
522:2	month 486:5,9,14	name 348:10	496:1
miles 399:3,6,7,12	morgan 345:16	381:7 404:8	new 382:5 389:1
399:15,16 413:19	morganlewis.com	405:17 421:19	520:4
526:14	345:19	426:4 467:5	news 374:6
miller 346:7	<b>morning</b> 348:1,21	487:24,25 488:5,6	newsletter 347:17
mimics 357:20	348:22,23 405:25	488:10,13 509:2,3	374:1,9,10 375:16
minds 398:21	421:19 513:7	530:6 531:3,4,15	375:20 379:23
399:6,24 400:5	mortar 510:18	532:3,4,21	380:3,5 382:2
minute 459:13	<b>motley</b> 344:3	named 487:17	429:10,11,25
497:1,7,12,17,20	522:12	names 460:25	newsletters 372:8
498:2,15 499:7,10	motleyrice.com	napb 452:15	373:6 430:6,9,12
518:22 521:11	344:7,7,8,8	narxcheck 452:15	430:21
<b>minutes</b> 389:17	<b>mount</b> 343:16	452:16,16 453:2,7	nice 429:13
459:24 497:15	344:6 528:14	national 343:4	night 377:23
521:14	move 371:15	347:16 348:5	nine 363:4
mischaracterizes	378:7 411:8 480:5	363:14 374:6	noncontrolled
415:19	mris 396:3	435:10 530:6	425:1
misconduct 518:8	n	531:3 532:3	nonlegitimate
misrepresent	<b>n</b> 344:1	nationwide 453:22	383:5 444:16
377:25	nabp 359:12	517:10	450:9 451:5
misrepresented	362:18,18 363:21	near 487:4	nonresponsive
378:5	364:2 368:11	nearly 502:17	411:9
<b>missing</b> 374:13	370:25 371:5,11	necessarily 410:15	normally 404:18
415:20,25	·	necessary 393:18	406:24
misspoke 493:19	372:23 373:1	409:5 461:4	northern 343:1
misstates 524:6	380:9 386:9,16	need 350:1 371:20	348:7
mistake 492:10	387:11,16,18,22	376:1 378:17	northwest 344:20
<b>misuse</b> 477:9	391:6 393:18	379:3 410:1 491:6	notarial 529:8
mix 456:18	396:17 427:1	510:10,11,22	notarized 530:14
mmes 452:19	428:4,16,18 432:7	523:13	<b>notary</b> 343:15
model 347:15,15	432:17,19,24	<b>needed</b> 374:23	528:6 529:16
362:20,20 363:13	433:3 440:13,13	388:24 396:20	530:25 531:10,18
363:14,20 364:5	441:1 447:15,21	403:24 409:17	532:15,23 533:23
	448:2 449:16		

[note - oh] Page 23

			T
<b>note</b> 379:6 530:12	oath 525:25	434:13,19 435:5	514:10 515:4,16
<b>noted</b> 380:21	<b>object</b> 374:16	435:14 436:5,19	516:7,23 517:24
484:20 492:16	381:9 523:7 524:6	437:4,11,20 438:5	518:12 519:20
520:21	objected 403:20	438:14,23 439:9	520:2,9 521:5
<b>notes</b> 349:7,12,15	405:16	440:2,8,18 441:18	523:16,22 524:14
415:8,22 420:5	objection 352:14	442:2,15 443:3	525:12,22 526:5
437:13 471:14	353:14 354:7,21	444:9 445:3,25	526:16
528:18	355:5 356:10	446:15,25 447:7	objections 380:20
<b>notify</b> 369:18	357:8 358:8,19	448:23 449:10	520:20
448:3	359:7 360:3,23	450:7 451:1,14,23	objective 384:1
number 348:3,8	361:16,21 362:7	453:21,25 454:5	396:18
353:12 367:23	364:6 367:5	454:15,21 455:1	<b>obligation</b> 354:16
382:12 383:16	368:23 369:23	455:14 456:20	355:1,4,11 397:2
390:7 400:12	370:5,5 371:4	457:7 458:1,10	519:18
413:5,16 417:10	375:4,11 376:25	459:2 460:9,22	obligations 397:2
418:15,16,21	377:5,12 379:18	461:23 464:3	519:17
419:1,2 420:4,22	380:2,15,21	465:13 466:12	observed 520:21
420:23 422:10	382:22 384:12	468:5,24 469:10	<b>obtain</b> 430:15
439:4 444:11,13	386:1,13,19	469:16 470:8	obtained 444:20
444:15 445:18	387:17 388:8,16	471:17,23 472:8	445:1
452:8,9 466:24	391:11 392:9,15	472:17,22 473:6	obtaining 468:12
469:7 471:15	393:3,22 395:25	473:12,19 474:8	occur 451:2
478:4 481:6 483:9	396:10 397:3,17	474:13,20 475:1,6	452:24 522:22,22
483:22 486:16	397:24 398:24	475:14 476:20	occurred 416:25
495:10 500:9	399:8 400:1,8	477:22 479:9	416:25 464:19
503:9 504:8 507:6	402:25 405:7	480:11 481:23	480:21 493:9
507:12 508:11,22	406:13 407:1,8	482:6,10,19,25	498:9
508:23 510:15	408:8 409:24	483:16 485:9,14	occurring 384:17
530:7,13	410:9,25 411:10	486:2,10,19 487:1	455:20 460:14
numbers 421:8	411:17,25 412:4	488:1,7,19,24	508:21
445:7 469:17,23	414:11,17,23	489:7,16 490:6,17	occurs 367:14
472:21 473:9	415:6,18,18 416:4	491:4 492:9	offensive 403:10
489:9 494:23,24	416:17 417:8	494:17 495:4	<b>office</b> 404:14
495:2,8,12,13	418:4,25 419:7,23	496:19 497:3	517:9,21
532:7	420:20 421:3,10	498:13,17 499:16	officer 426:7,11
numerous 440:21	422:1,7,16 423:3	500:11,19 501:9	official 531:15
0	423:17,24 424:20	501:16 502:2,24	532:21
	425:4 426:25	503:12 504:4	oftentimes 401:7
oarrs 447:5,8,12	427:7 428:9	506:3 507:17,25	402:10
447:22 457:6,10	429:21 430:16	509:6,9,18 510:24	<b>oh</b> 344:11 402:4
464:25 465:1,10 479:22		* *	
	432:13 433:11,25	511:21 513:14,21	418:10 479:4

[oh - oxycodone] Page 24

512:15	367:8 368:14	<b>opiates</b> 420:12	420:22 444:11
ohio 343:1 344:14	371:15 373:21,25	<b>opined</b> 352:20	446:20 448:22
346:11 347:18	374:19 375:20	<b>opinion</b> 351:6,10	508:23
348:8 351:7,11,15	378:7,18 379:6	351:14 352:6	opportunity
352:5,10,12 358:2	380:20 385:21	353:11 354:12	403:24
372:12 374:1,15	389:1 390:3	355:20 356:19	oral 343:13
375:22 376:4,9,19	391:15 393:6	357:17,25 358:1,9	orally 459:5
377:21,23 379:12	396:7 397:11	358:24 382:25	<b>order</b> 388:1
380:4,8,13 381:20	401:22,24 402:4	383:13 409:2,13	505:12 507:23
381:22 425:15,18	403:20 404:5	409:20 410:8,14	510:13 520:14
425:19,20 426:2	405:16 406:19	410:18,20 411:12	organization
426:11,14,15,16	408:3,20,23 410:4	414:5 418:10,10	394:11
426:24 427:12	411:8 413:8,15,16	419:10 455:15	organizations
429:1,4,8,9,10,11	415:25 417:4	476:2 485:18,24	390:15
429:12,16,18	419:4 420:2	486:5 507:5,21	original 489:10
430:1,5,9,10,13,14	431:18 456:15	508:1 510:2,6,21	originally 375:5
430:20,22,24	457:23 475:3	515:15,17,19	osco 371:8 496:16
432:21,21 433:4,7	478:19 479:4	523:1,4 524:10	ought 390:2
433:8,17,20,22	482:23 483:15	opinions 353:11	outside 358:2
434:1,4,8 438:12	491:20 514:4	357:16 371:16	412:17 419:14,21
439:3,12,14,19,21	515:7 521:15	372:1 408:24	420:4 453:12
440:5,7,14,14	522:8 524:1	opioid 424:14	456:12 463:7
441:1,15 447:4,9	once 406:1 449:23	435:13 438:1	497:22 522:21
447:15,18,21,23	450:16 455:9,15	443:15 444:13	overall 416:24
447:25 448:2,20	480:20 521:3	445:1,19,22	432:14 506:8
449:9,17 452:14	oncologists 414:21	447:19 448:13	525:14
453:22 457:25	ones 350:1	449:4,20 450:17	overdosed 444:20
464:8,15,17 465:6	<b>online</b> 363:1	450:20 451:11,21	444:25
465:8,10,15 466:1	512:18	453:10,18 454:3	overdoses 417:12
466:6,8,9,9,13	open 350:5 362:24	458:25 461:21	420:24 444:13,18
475:19 476:8,13	363:9 373:15	463:4,12 465:11	525:15
476:14 478:14,21	389:3 396:18	469:25 483:8,18	overlapping
479:5,19,21,23,25	404:3	483:21 484:6,21	467:20 470:1
524:11 530:2	operates 480:17	487:10,12 499:15	471:8
okay 348:17	operations 369:7	504:19 505:20,25	oversees 426:6
349:14,17,23	376:12 426:2	507:8 509:15	oversight 350:10
350:3 353:24	458:12	522:16 523:5	352:2
354:3,24 355:22	<b>opiate</b> 343:5 348:6	524:3,9 525:15	ownership 402:24
355:23 357:14	420:12 530:6	<b>opioids</b> 372:16	oxford 345:5
363:12 364:11	531:3 532:3	412:17 416:19	oxycodone 375:24
365:3,25 366:4,20		417:11,23 419:14	

[p - pays] Page 25

	275.22	514.0 22 22	modium4s 251.2 16
p	pain 375:22	514:8,22,23	patients 351:2,16
<b>p</b> 344:1,1	446:11,22 458:25	516:20,21 517:11	361:7 376:11,22
<b>p.m.</b> 496:8,11	461:21	particularly	395:1 403:4
512:4,7 521:17,20	panel 391:9,15	375:24 412:17	404:12 420:11
524:21,24 527:12	400:13	419:14 430:8	423:21 424:3,7
pa 345:5,13,18	papantonio 346:2	433:13	434:11,18,22
pad 349:12	paper 349:7,12	parties 521:7	435:20,23,24
page 346:3 347:2	paragraph 350:13	528:23,24	455:3,4 467:24
347:14 350:6,8,8	350:15,22 355:10	partnered 470:18	468:3 487:11,20
350:13 352:1	401:4 407:24	parts 427:19	489:25 500:10,24
353:24 363:18	408:9,15 477:1,2	party 396:18	501:3,5 502:18
364:20 365:24	parameter 399:12	403:23 405:13	503:17,21 504:9
366:15,18,20	399:13	529:3,6	506:10 525:16
367:23 374:4,14	part 353:3,16	pass 421:14 512:8	526:15
374:21,25 375:6,7	354:22 360:13	512:13 524:15	pattern 362:5
376:7,8 378:24	361:7,11 368:8	527:5	385:13 454:25
381:7 382:4,6,8	369:4 380:12,12	<b>passed</b> 394:13	455:5,10,16 456:6
391:21 392:1	395:17 396:1	395:13 463:18	456:17 489:24
397:7,21 398:8,17	406:15 408:15	patient 370:21	508:20
400:11,25 401:24	422:21 423:20	399:2 406:3 407:6	patterns 350:24
402:2 408:21,23	424:17 425:22	407:14 410:1	351:8 352:19
413:11,15 419:9	426:12 428:3	413:19 415:8	354:6,17 355:2
431:14,17 457:15	433:23 435:17	420:5 424:10	357:4,19 358:5,17
457:16,20 468:12	439:24 440:12	425:12 435:4,13	359:3,25 361:15
469:7 476:23	441:21 445:21	436:2,4,6,10,10,11	366:12 367:2
478:25 479:3	459:8,20 467:23	436:17,18,21,22	368:19 369:17
482:20 483:2,10	472:18 494:19	437:2,8,13,17,24	370:10 409:8
483:13,25 484:1,6	501:19 532:9	438:3 440:24,25	410:17 440:17
484:11,11,20	partially 415:7	452:17,18,20	454:12,12,20
485:8 486:17	participants 403:6	455:11,13,23	455:2,7 457:5,9
487:4 489:25	participated 392:2	456:1,7,11 457:1	pause 521:11
502:5,6 520:5	participation	468:10,14 469:25	pay 404:15 406:21
530:13,15 532:7	477:4 478:23	470:22,24 471:14	<b>paying</b> 404:23
533:3	480:8	478:7,10 484:7	503:7 506:10
	particular 367:23	503:3 504:25	payment 505:4
<b>pages</b> 365:6 375:6 380:24	394:21 424:19	506:17 522:22	payments 502:7
	425:2,9 435:12	523:11 525:6,7,20	505:1,15 507:7,9
paid 502:18,19	449:19 455:11,11	526:2	507:23
503:17,22 504:2	457:1 464:24	patient's 438:7	payor 405:13
504:19 505:20	499:18,25 507:24	451:6	pays 503:3
506:1 507:13	509:15 510:18		# <b>V</b>
509:16 510:20			

#### [pdmp - pharmacists]

_	_	I	I
<b>pdmp</b> 457:10	perfectly 511:19	448:3 452:18	464:1 465:12
465:15,18 477:3,6	perform 432:18	453:8,18,19	503:2 505:10
477:19,21 478:3,4	433:9 460:12	462:21 463:7,9,9	506:15 508:2,6
478:9,22,23 480:8	525:23	464:14,15 466:7	514:6,21 516:19
480:16,18,19,23	performed 446:24	466:15 475:19	517:22 519:17
481:13,14 482:1	performing 489:9	505:14 510:17	523:9 525:4,9
pdmp's 465:19	<b>period</b> 484:19	511:15 516:3	pharmacist's
pdmps 465:24	486:6 518:21	517:20 519:14	383:22 384:8,24
484:19	periodically	525:10	386:11 388:6
pdx 496:22	372:14	pharmacist 353:9	396:4 397:1
pen 349:13	permitted 514:12	354:16 355:8,16	455:17 456:3,23
pennsylvania	permitting 513:25	355:19 359:17	509:2 517:2,6,14
458:18,23 461:9	person 373:3	360:8 361:9,15	pharmacists
461:14	406:2 420:12	362:5 366:12	350:25 351:2,12
pensacola 346:4	444:25 445:4,9	368:5,9,10 369:18	351:17,22 353:10
<b>people</b> 375:25	461:7,11 529:2	370:14,19 371:8	357:21,24 358:4
395:10 406:19	personally 385:9	379:6,14,15,24	358:18 359:4
416:21 456:13	438:24 461:18	381:24,25 383:5	360:1,13 361:10
480:22 481:2	531:11 532:15	383:18 384:1,16	361:19,20,25
percent 417:16,17	personnel 351:1	385:2,7 386:4	362:11 371:17
417:17 418:6,8,11	perspective 503:2	387:1,7,19,24	372:9,15 376:9,21
418:16,22,24	<b>peter</b> 344:10	388:1,5,13,22,24	379:22 380:6,6,7
419:4,19 420:9	pharmacies	398:4,23 399:13	381:15,17,21
421:2 445:8	350:14,17,23	402:20 407:20	382:16 383:9,14
502:17,23 503:9	351:20 359:13,21	408:12 410:17	384:18 385:22
503:16,21 504:8	361:5 366:9 371:3	411:1,6,6 415:15	386:20 387:3,14
504:18 505:20,25	371:12 376:14	415:22 416:2	388:11 393:1,12
506:9,9,16 507:14	380:10 382:25	425:9 428:22,25	393:25 394:5,6,10
508:4,4,4,5 509:14	383:1 387:12	429:1,3,7,19 430:1	394:14,15,17,25
510:5,6 511:10,16	394:5 403:7	430:7 432:18,23	395:14,18 396:2,8
511:17 524:2,13	407:12 410:6	434:16 435:2,3,9	396:20,21 397:16
percentage 417:6	411:15,21 412:2,7	435:11 436:7,12	397:21 400:22
417:21 418:1	412:10 419:20	437:23 438:18,22	401:1 402:1,6
420:17 424:25	421:9 422:11	439:1 440:21	403:5,7 404:11
504:23 505:14	430:14 433:15	441:12,16,22	407:2,25 408:4
506:13 507:22,22	434:17 435:10	443:13,17,25	409:4,5,13,17,20
508:3 510:3,19	436:16,23 437:19	444:3 449:22	409:25 410:12,21
511:13,22 524:9	439:22 441:23	450:1,11 452:25	411:12 425:15,18
percentages 506:4	442:10,12,14,24	455:12,15,24	425:19 426:20,24
507:2,3 509:21	443:2 444:22	456:4,9,15,19	429:9,14 430:14
510:14	445:2 447:17	459:19 463:25	430:22 431:4,8,21

# [pharmacists - policy]

431:25 432:8,9	387:3,19,22	504:10 505:13,17	place 376:13
433:9,22 434:2,11	388:11 397:23	505:22 506:8,14	381:23
434:21 435:19,25	403:5,12,12	506:25 507:6,10	plaintiff's 437:10
436:8 438:10	404:15 409:16	507:24 510:19	plaintiffs 344:2
439:5,13,18 441:8	411:22 412:9	511:10,13 516:5	522:12
442:12,23 443:7	421:24 422:6,14	516:13,15 518:3,6	pleasant 343:16
450:5 459:6,17	423:1,9,15,22	519:10 520:3	344:6 528:14
460:11,14,19	424:2,7,19 425:2	523:3 524:12,12	<b>please</b> 348:13
461:20,25 462:2,5	425:16,21 426:2	pharmacy's	349:20 350:5
463:15,16,22	426:12,14,16,16	354:16 379:13	362:24 378:16,25
464:24 465:10	426:20 427:2,5,8	413:1 439:25	379:6 381:8
466:14 471:13	427:10,13,22,25	440:15 476:8,14	389:12 413:11
480:24,24 498:12	428:5,7,16,19,20	506:12	431:16,19 492:13
507:4 511:9	428:22 429:4,13	<b>phi</b> 509:1	521:23 530:11,11
513:10,17,25	429:17,19,23	philadelphia	pocket 503:7
514:13,15,16	430:5,7,13,22,24	345:18	podgurski 462:7
517:10,23 518:10	432:22 433:4,7,8	<b>phone</b> 490:15	poerschke 346:3
519:15,16 520:3	433:18,20 434:1,4	492:20 495:22	point 352:24 355:9
523:2	435:19 436:9,18	530:3	359:6,8 361:10
pharmacy 344:13	437:25 438:12	physician 383:3	367:2,9 405:24
347:15,16,18	439:4,11,12,15,19	385:7 387:9	408:6,9 429:17
351:1,6,10,14	439:21 440:6,7,14	404:14 451:3	444:14 449:16
352:18 353:1	440:15,20 441:1	452:14 467:25	461:14 482:12
354:5 355:1,6,9,17	441:11 445:10	468:4 469:1	497:16,21 498:1
355:19 357:3,18	447:4,9,16,19,22	470:22,25 503:21	498:18 502:23
358:1,2,5,9,15	448:2,4 449:18,18	516:11	520:1 527:10
359:1,6,9,16,22,24	451:19 452:7,25	physician's 470:23	<b>pointed</b> 399:10
360:5,6 361:18	454:11 455:9	502:18 503:17	<b>points</b> 362:8 394:2
363:14,15 364:12	456:6,16 458:18	504:9	444:10 458:22
364:21 365:7,11	459:12 460:3	physicians 391:23	489:19 502:9
366:4,10,16,21,24	461:4,15,16	394:4,9 395:17,21	<b>policies</b> 383:2,20
366:25 367:13,20	462:17,24 463:2	396:3,19 400:21	384:17 386:10
367:25 368:2,17	463:20 464:8,9,18	pick 484:17	387:13 442:10,13
368:19 369:16	464:22,23,24	picked 486:5	443:8,11 502:7,16
370:8 371:5,6	465:4,6,9 466:9,15	<b>pill</b> 366:7	513:8,24 515:2
372:7,20 373:4,8	471:24 475:4,12	<b>pills</b> 453:18	518:9
374:2 376:20	476:13 486:24,24	498:12,24 499:5	<b>policy</b> 383:9
377:4,22 379:22	496:13,18 497:13	pittsburgh 345:5	384:22 388:4
380:5,8,13 381:20	497:14,19,24	345:13	430:25 516:25
383:13 385:9,11	498:4,6 499:8	<b>pivot</b> 382:5	517:7,8,14
385:22 386:16	503:2,10,19,24		

#### [polster - prescriptions]

<b>polster</b> 520:15	479:23 516:12	509:3	433:10 434:24
populations	524:12	prescribers 351:2	435:13,21 436:12
424:15	practiced 425:18	351:16 377:22	438:1,11,22
<b>portion</b> 374:12,13	practices 364:16	384:19,21 386:18	440:23 441:9,13
portions 372:23	424:18,21 425:8	387:15 393:12,24	441:17,24 442:4
<b>posed</b> 399:9	425:21 448:8	395:1 397:15	443:14,16,18,19
position 356:15	458:24 459:9	402:2 403:2,13,14	444:4,11,13,21
359:14 380:12	practicing 371:6	433:16 438:18	445:1,10 448:22
462:8 516:4	376:21 380:6	447:5,10,11,13,18	450:18 452:1
positions 403:20	practitioner 355:7	447:20 448:4	455:13 456:5,25
possibility 452:3	355:18 476:14	449:2,6,8 450:3,12	460:8 463:5,24
possible 349:19	practitioners	452:19 465:17	465:11 468:10
369:19 393:2,15	409:9 449:14	467:16,21 468:14	484:18 487:10
393:19 410:17	478:8 479:15	468:22 470:2,10	497:15 503:4
477:9	<b>pratt</b> 344:16	472:6,10 478:5,5	504:22,24,25
possibly 409:9	preexisting 435:3	478:10 480:24,25	505:5,5 506:18,21
potential 362:5	prepared 520:11	481:6 490:2 515:3	506:23 508:3,8,24
366:12 401:9	preparing 425:25	prescribing 383:4	508:25 509:12,16
402:12 452:2,23	prescribe 449:4	390:18 395:14	510:7,12 513:11
454:16 456:6,17	471:3	425:7 448:8,13,22	513:19 514:1,5,9
484:24	prescribed 395:16	455:6 470:22,23	514:22 517:23
potentially 400:18	470:1	477:5,8 478:15	519:16 522:17,24
<b>power</b> 401:13	prescriber 377:25	487:6,18,25 488:6	523:5,9,23 525:5
powerpoints	382:11,12 383:19	488:9,10,11	525:14 530:6
434:5	384:20,25 385:4	489:24 499:12	531:3 532:3
ppoerschke 346:5	385:12 386:24	500:9,15,16,22,22	prescriptions
practical 431:10	387:4 399:4 410:1	500:23 501:5,8,15	360:8 362:1 368:5
432:2	413:17,20 450:8	501:24,25	369:11 376:13,16
practice 355:17	450:16,22 451:4	prescription 343:5	376:23 382:11
364:21 365:7	451:10 452:17	348:6 350:19	383:4,15 384:20
367:13,20 368:4	455:11,21,25	355:13,14 360:14	385:4,10,23
368:25 369:2	456:8 468:14,15	362:12 370:22	387:14 388:12
370:8,13,13,15	468:16 469:2	382:16 386:23	394:15,17 413:6
372:9,19 373:8	470:12 478:15	387:8 388:15	413:22 414:1,5,10
377:24 394:18	487:14 499:13,23	395:18,22,23	414:16,20,24
396:9,22 403:13	503:10 513:19	404:13,16,18	415:4,13 416:3,8
405:12 429:8	514:8,22 516:6,14	406:14,22,24	416:15,22 417:2,5
431:1 441:2 452:7	516:21 517:11,18	407:16 410:2	417:6 418:2,11,18
468:23 469:9,15	526:15	414:4,7 415:3,10	418:21 420:4,18
470:7,19 471:6	prescriber's	416:11,14 431:6,8	420:25 425:1,13
478:6,14,21 479:5	449:19 450:19	431:23,25 432:12	431:13 435:24

# [prescriptions - provisions]

437:9,18 438:10	pressure 460:10	proceedings	<b>proper</b> 381:10
438:17 443:1	464:2	493:19	474:18
444:15 445:5,8	pressured 459:17	process 360:13	proportion 422:17
446:3,8,17,18	<b>pretty</b> 462:13,14	361:7,8,12 366:7	prospective
447:6,17 449:19	prevalent 490:10	406:7,15,16	367:22 394:19
449:24 450:4,9,20	prevent 351:3	407:16 432:24	<b>provide</b> 352:11,23
450:23,24 451:4	387:13	440:24,25 493:18	358:3 360:12
451:12,21 452:9	preventing 519:16	511:16	361:6,19 362:20
452:10 453:10	previously 493:4	processed 511:11	364:7 372:8
455:25 459:7	493:12	processes 511:14	387:25 394:16
460:11,15 461:21	primarily 467:6	processing 440:23	409:2,4 411:5
462:18 463:25	primary 431:2	produced 343:14	412:14 417:19
464:4 466:4	500:4	473:17,20	419:12 428:18
469:18,21 470:1	principal 392:5	<b>product</b> 370:11	434:2 449:17
472:1,2 474:18	<b>prior</b> 358:18 359:4	504:11	507:1
483:11,23 484:14	360:1,7 362:11	production 530:15	provided 357:5
487:12 499:13	401:10 402:13	530:17,22	358:17 359:3
502:19 503:18	441:4 465:16	products 370:17	360:1 361:25
504:19 505:15,18	484:18 486:11	professional	371:16 372:1
505:20 506:1,7,10	501:12	355:17 383:22,25	385:13 416:18
507:6,8,11,15	probable 408:14	386:12 399:14	426:16 428:19,21
508:11,18,22	probably 377:11	449:3 456:24	434:5 443:7,12
509:15 510:15,19	418:6 467:8	513:18 514:7	451:24 454:22
511:11,16 514:7	482:13,21 483:2	515:21,23,24,25	480:23 481:12
516:21 519:13	501:21 504:19	518:8	485:19 490:18,20
523:20 524:3,9	505:21	professionally	490:25 491:2
525:17 526:3	problem 375:22	515:18	492:5 493:11
present 346:8	376:4,6 395:20	<b>profile</b> 436:6,11	494:20,22
436:16 489:11	396:1 484:20	436:17,22 437:3,9	providers 478:23
528:23	problematic 401:9	437:12,24 438:3,7	provides 360:7
presentation	402:12 513:20	440:25	361:22 362:4,11
404:12	problems 376:12	profiles 437:17	providing 375:23
presented 364:8	393:24 447:12	484:19	388:24 461:3
406:17 439:16	procedure 343:18	<b>program</b> 431:10	provision 352:17
455:13 465:12	528:16 531:5	432:2 452:15,24	353:13,25 356:14
472:9	532:5	programs 434:5	356:16
presenting 468:10	procedures 443:8	457:10 480:16,18	provisions 352:11
presents 522:17	443:11	480:19 484:19	352:25 353:17
president 458:22	proceed 348:16	prohibited 519:24	354:19 355:24
461:16	proceeded 453:15	promote 477:7	356:4,20 357:2,4
			357:10,11,15

# [provisions - received]

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277.16		467 4 10 477 10	191 441 7
377:16	q	467:4,12 475:18	readily 441:7
<b>public</b> 343:15	qualify 417:9,14	483:6 510:13,25	reading 431:15,16
406:21 460:4	419:4 420:6	512:10 513:2,5,7	468:11 530:19
528:7 529:16	quantify 418:17	520:1,6,10,12,16	reads 374:22
531:10,18 532:15	420:6,14	521:6,22 522:3,6	401:4 402:8
532:23 533:23	quantities 412:16	522:13 524:18	406:25
publication	419:13 446:1,10	526:8,11 527:3	real 466:19 476:24
428:13	487:23	quick 389:15,22	realize 436:13
<b>publish</b> 362:19,19	quantity 418:23	466:20 476:24	493:17 508:18
363:11,21 364:23	445:22 490:2	quickly 512:1	really 366:17
published 364:12	question 356:8,23	quite 359:14	520:24
404:7	357:9 358:25	<b>quote</b> 376:11	realtime 343:15
<b>pull</b> 348:25 392:11	361:17 368:13,16	467:24 477:15	528:5
499:21	370:1,4 371:10	<b>quoted</b> 353:25	reason 361:1
purchase 428:23	378:12 381:13	354:3	389:20 416:9,16
purchased 452:15	387:11 388:18	r	417:7 418:3,12
purpose 370:23	399:9,23 401:21	_	467:23 468:2
393:6,7,23 396:17	403:25 407:9	r 344:1,4 346:9,10	471:2 487:17
404:3 420:19	403:25 407:9	rafferty 346:2	503:1 513:12
435:1 442:1		raised 389:8	514:23,25 530:14
443:16,21 447:6	410:20 412:8	459:25 460:3	532:8 533:3
450:9,18,23,25	414:13 430:19	516:9	reasonable 398:21
451:5,13 453:11	431:19 434:20	ran 426:1 488:14	399:5,6,24 400:5
461:22 511:18	442:17 459:15	488:20	445:22
523:10 525:5	461:24 483:20	rang 498:18	recall 362:22
purposes 383:5	486:11 488:2	range 418:7	376:4,6,19 377:1
385:2 444:16	489:11 493:15,17	rates 477:3 480:8	379:12,19 429:22
511:20	497:5 499:17	rays 396:2	458:2,4 465:20
pursuant 343:17	503:5,14 506:5	reacting 393:12	474:5,7,10,14,16
528:15	509:19 511:5	read 363:19	474:21,23 481:19
put 348:25 350:2	517:16 518:25	376:17 377:7	496:20,23,24
366:24 372:8	519:1 526:6,19	382:9 401:21	497:4 515:10,12
373:22 378:17	questioner 512:14	402:15 405:23	516:8
384:20 403:7	questioning	408:7 419:9	receipt 530:18
405:17 413:8	394:25 395:1	425:17 429:3,7	receive 432:4
403.17 413.8 427:10 499:5	417:25 527:1	457:13 458:4	490:1 495:16
502:25	questions 347:3,5	468:17 477:3,11	506:15
puts 498:12,19	347:6,8,9,11	479:2 481:17	received 442:14
	348:20 357:2	487:15 515:7,11	445:10 463:15
pweinberger 344:12	378:10 421:13,18	531:5,6,12 532:5,6	473:13 509:10
J <del>11</del> .14	422:13 429:15	532:17	7/3.13 303.10
	438:15 466:16		
	L	L	

[receives - related] Page 31

receives 361:9	497:14	486:16 489:15,17	refreshing 360:4
370:21	recross 347:10	489:22,24 490:11	refusal 383:2,20
receiving 455:3,5	526:10	492:1,8 493:10	384:7,15 385:16
456:16	red 351:22,23	494:3,13 499:12	386:5,10 387:13
recess 390:6	355:12,15 368:6	499:18,25 500:2,7	388:4 516:10,12
401:16 466:23	369:19 370:11	502:20 503:1,5	refusals 382:21
491:14 496:9	390:17 391:2	506:10 507:9	386:17 513:8
512:5 521:18	392:2 393:8,15,19	508:18 509:22,24	<b>refuse</b> 383:14
524:22	393:21,25 394:1	510:4,4,6,7 522:17	385:23 386:23
recognize 409:10	396:24 397:4,8,11	522:20,23 523:5,6	387:3 449:18
recognized 355:15	397:14,15,20,23	523:8,13,20,23	455:12 456:5
recommendation	397:25 398:2,3,4,7	524:2,9 525:3,10	513:11 514:1,5
465:14 466:1	398:8,12,16,17,22	526:12,14	516:19
recommendations	399:2,11,11,16,17	redirect 347:7	refused 382:10
461:8	399:18,25 400:2,6	513:1 521:12	384:22 385:9
recommended	400:13 401:5	526:13	405:17
446:4	402:9 403:3	reduced 528:18	refusing 382:10,20
record 348:2,14	404:24,25 405:4	refer 365:16	387:2
375:13 380:21,25	405:21 406:4	410:10 457:12	regard 450:2
390:4,9 401:14,18	407:21 408:1,6,10	467:8	509:10,22
430:25 436:2,4	409:10 411:19	reference 445:18	regarding 350:9
466:19,21 467:1	412:23,25 413:5	480:1 481:25	371:17 373:7
471:14 491:6,9,11	413:15,18,23	483:25 484:9	393:25 401:25
491:12,16,19	415:14,23 416:23	530:7 531:2 532:2	469:25 496:25
496:5,7,11 497:12	417:20 421:9	referenced 494:1	regardless 514:20
512:2,3,7 516:17	429:20 430:2,8,11	531:11 532:15	regional 394:13
520:21 521:13,16	431:12 432:11	references 475:7	registered 343:14
521:20 524:19,20	433:23 436:13	476:1 482:14	431:8,25 528:5
524:24 527:8,9,11	443:18,25 444:4,6	483:3	registrant 387:20
528:20 532:9	444:6 446:8 447:9	referencing	registrants 447:24
recorded 348:4	447:12 451:20	477:17	regulation 354:11
368:3 460:4	452:1,2,9,17 453:3	referred 380:7	regulations 363:21
477:19 497:18	453:14 454:6,16	492:15 517:7	372:19 381:18,23
498:21 499:1,7	455:7,16,16,18,18	referring 352:12	479:23
501:21	456:10 459:6,12	386:6 457:19	regulator 353:9
recording 368:7	461:5 462:6 464:1	484:10 516:25	reimbursement
recordkeeping	465:3 466:4 469:1	reflect 367:18	405:13
356:17	469:3,6,7,22,23	reflected 352:4,9	related 390:18
<b>records</b> 350:19	471:1,24 472:3,5	491:24	400:17 452:3
353:2,4 367:24	473:13,14 478:18	reflective 367:14	502:7
425:12 436:21	482:2 485:7		

#### [relates - responsibilities]

-	_		_
relates 343:6	369:15 372:2	representative	researched 377:23
relating 355:12	382:4,8 385:18,20	515:8	researchers 475:3
438:3 463:4,11	390:24 398:18	represented	residing 529:21
relationship 435:3	400:3 408:21	377:20 479:20	resolution 355:15
435:19 436:9	412:22 413:4,8	528:24	394:13,14 395:13
relationships	414:1 425:25	request 377:15	407:21,25 408:5
434:11,18	431:4 438:11	426:14 431:3	408:12 429:20
relative 529:3	439:3,18 449:8,14	437:8,12,13	430:2 433:23
relatively 374:9	457:12,16 463:17	464:25 532:9,11	459:6 461:5 462:6
422:17	464:5 467:7,8	requested 507:18	463:18 523:13
released 428:13,16	468:9,9,12,20	528:22	resolve 355:13
relevant 352:5,10	471:16 472:9,18	requesting 404:15	368:6 394:24
367:16 489:5	472:20,23 473:1,1	406:21	409:10 415:23
relied 391:1	473:4,7,11,13,17	require 357:3	431:12 432:11
476:11 479:6,14	473:22 474:4	<b>required</b> 351:7,11	455:17,18
482:8	475:8,22 476:7,24	351:15 354:18	resolved 417:20
relies 456:19	477:3,13 478:17	357:18 362:6,9	436:14 443:21
rely 354:19 356:4	478:19 479:19	368:18 369:21	444:1,6 446:8
357:17 393:20	480:1 482:4,11,21	400:6 407:21	456:9,13 506:11
476:6 480:13	483:10 484:2	408:5 427:21	508:19 510:5
<b>relying</b> 353:13,19	486:20 487:4,9	431:9 432:1	522:20,24 523:6,8
353:22 415:16	492:15,15,22,25	436:17,20,21,23	523:21,23 524:10
480:7 491:5	493:2 494:8,11,16	466:8 530:25	525:4
remaining 512:9	502:5 520:5	requirement	resolving 430:11
520:12	reported 385:8	367:4 368:16,20	525:10
remember 384:5	480:22	368:21 369:3	resources 481:11
395:8,10 430:3	reporter 343:15	370:2,3 384:10	respect 465:10
452:13 467:13,17	343:15,15 348:12	408:17 426:23	520:15 523:4
483:5,7	348:18 363:5,7	429:9 440:9 465:5	respectfully
remote 343:9	401:12 528:4,5,6,6	502:1	406:10
remotely 348:9	529:15 531:7	requirements	respiratory
528:10	reporting 360:17	368:1 376:10	484:22
<b>repeat</b> 431:19	360:22 361:2,11	384:4 427:11	respond 459:18
483:20	455:21	428:1 441:3 460:8	486:11 511:1
repeatedly 356:23	reports 463:20	466:9	response 357:1
rephrase 430:19	464:25 479:22	requires 355:4	368:12 378:8
442:18	481:13 492:23	366:25 368:4	responses 438:16
replied 495:11	495:14	370:13,14 427:13	responsibilities
report 349:1,6	represent 353:11	429:1,19	352:3,9 355:8
350:5,9 351:19,20	421:20 467:6	research 359:9	393:11 394:19
352:20 355:20		475:3,7,12	396:22 428:3

# [responsibility - sale]

responsibility	reveals 469:24	397:16,23 400:14	rmr 529:14
353:20 355:16	472:14	400:19,23 402:1	<b>robert</b> 346:7
357:12,25 371:16	review 364:7	402:19 403:16,18	role 371:11 373:1
371:18 372:3	367:21,22 369:10	403:22,24 404:8	403:9 404:1
373:3,9 374:22	369:14 370:8	404:19,25 405:6	440:12 458:9,17
375:3 376:10,22	385:19 394:20	405:14,18 406:12	458:20 462:2
379:14,25 380:11	414:24 425:12	406:19 407:14	room 452:14
381:23 387:20,21	428:4 433:10	408:1,24 410:8,18	row 494:14
388:23 392:7,10	437:17,24 438:4	411:23 412:20,23	<b>rph</b> 343:9,14
392:17 394:1,6,10	439:7 440:15	413:2,6,9,20,24	527:18 528:9
395:2 396:5,15	443:6 454:13,19	414:7,10,16,22	530:8 531:4,9
402:21 409:6,14	457:22 458:3	415:4,15,17 416:3	532:4,13 533:20
409:21 410:22	475:22 476:22	416:9 419:16,25	rules 343:17
411:13 430:6	484:18 526:1	432:18 444:7	347:15 362:20
434:3 438:13	530:12 531:1	454:18 457:21	363:14,20 364:21
439:7,17 449:13	532:1	462:16 465:18	365:7 367:17,18
453:14 454:7	reviewed 360:17	467:9 469:24	368:22,24 369:1,6
455:17 456:4	361:8 386:7	470:4 473:9,24,25	369:8 377:24
463:6,13 519:19	443:11 454:11,18	477:11 479:1,6	381:22 429:8
responsible	458:4 478:1	481:21 482:17	459:13 478:14,21
357:21 429:8	479:23 481:14	484:10 485:24	479:5 524:12
rest 448:16 466:8	492:22	487:4,19,20 496:4	528:16 531:5
<b>rested</b> 373:9	reviewing 360:21	496:13 502:1,7	532:5
379:14	361:2 430:4	503:22 504:2,10	run 412:25 469:17
restricted 464:12	rice 344:3 522:12	504:12 505:8	469:23 474:17
rests 411:4	<b>right</b> 352:13	506:20,23 512:21	478:19 488:12,16
result 405:22	354:14 355:22	512:23 514:24	492:2
412:14 413:4	359:18 363:3,24	519:7 526:20	rung 498:18
419:11 451:21	364:13,17 365:11	risk 484:22	running 491:7
525:9	365:14 366:21	rite 345:15 421:20	495:12
resulting 417:12	369:15,22 370:21	421:24 437:2,8	rushing 389:2
retail 371:2	371:25 372:4,10	439:5 443:6,12	rx 344:14 432:15
407:12 409:15,22	372:12,16,24	450:3,5,8,12	S
410:6,23 411:15	373:4,8,11 374:5,6	457:12 458:9,24	s 344:1 530:15
419:20 421:9	374:9,23 375:8	459:5,8,11,15,25	532:8,8 533:3
516:5	381:13,25 382:17	460:1,19 461:20	safe 399:13
retain 350:18	382:21 383:11,17	462:1,4,5,7,16,20	saith 527:14
retention 430:25	385:25 391:3,7,18	463:8 486:1 494:9	sake 373:21
returned 530:18	391:22 392:3,22	494:15 502:11	sale 497:17,21
returning 526:12	392:23 393:16	521:5 525:1	498:11,18,25
	395:24 396:16		499:1 501:15
			177.1 301.13

# [sample - signatory]

sample 454:22	378:23,24,24	521:2	430:12 471:1
455:6 509:10	379:4,4 394:16	seeing 365:1 387:9	486:14 488:14
sat 391:9	395:17 397:9	415:9 478:10	501:19,20 529:7
saw 360:15 381:2	401:4 402:5	seek 422:22	sets 485:19,22
480:25	412:13 419:10	seeking 432:10	settlement 457:13
saying 356:5	494:3	seen 375:15	457:14,24
357:10 398:7,12	secondary 508:5	385:15,21,24	seven 436:7
399:4 407:12	section 350:9	444:5	shapira 345:3
504:15 505:19	352:15 353:7,20	selected 432:21	shapira.com 345:6
509:14,21 510:17	364:20 365:6	selecting 468:2	345:7
510:21 511:8,13	366:15,20,23	send 447:16	shares 521:5
says 353:1,3	367:3,9,23 372:3	sends 379:23	<b>sheet</b> 530:13 532:7
356:16 367:3,24	374:21,25 375:2	447:10	532:10,18 533:1
370:16 379:6	375:10 380:24	sense 451:3	shibley 344:9
382:2 404:11	397:8,11,11,14	sent 349:19 381:21	shopping 377:21
405:10,15,19,22	400:16,16,25	490:16	467:12,16,20
405:25 406:10,19	401:25 403:8	sentence 350:20	468:19 471:16
406:21 408:10	404:10 427:11	350:22 376:8	475:5,13,20,23,25
443:23 477:2	429:22 476:24	378:17,24 379:4	476:4,7,9,13,23
484:6 494:8	477:1 483:15,18	401:4 402:5 408:6	477:5,16,16,18,20
502:16 511:9	484:10	412:13 419:10	478:13 479:16,18
scheduled 343:17	sections 352:21,25	472:14 479:2	480:9,23,25 481:3
schierholt 426:5	353:10,16,22,23	separate 370:7	481:4,18 482:5,9
426:10	365:10 377:8	443:1	<b>short</b> 374:9,15
science 475:4	402:24 403:2	september 529:20	421:13 471:8
scope 453:12	<b>secure</b> 462:15	series 427:18	509:1
454:6 526:16,25	see 350:11,20	513:5	shorthand 343:15
527:4	354:3 356:25	serious 432:17	528:6
score 452:20,21,22	364:20 365:5,7,10	433:17	<b>show</b> 354:4 498:23
452:23	365:12,16,19	seriously 376:11	<b>showed</b> 488:14
screen 365:12,16	366:15,20 374:4	serve 396:17	showing 375:6
366:18 373:23	376:2 379:1,2,10	served 424:7	444:5
389:9	382:13 387:5	436:18 458:21	<b>shown</b> 476:9
<b>scripts</b> 487:19	389:10 397:8,20	473:11 478:2	530:16
504:1	397:22 399:3	service 345:2	shows 375:5
<b>scroll</b> 365:5	401:11 409:11	423:10,11	sic 420:13
seal 529:8 531:15	477:2 478:24	<b>serviced</b> 422:23,25	side 493:22
532:21	487:7 489:18	423:15,22	sign 364:13 403:22
second 353:7	491:18,22 495:19	services 344:14	406:8
362:13 374:4,14	502:11,21,22	set 371:21 382:3	signatory 404:7
374:25 376:8	505:1 509:19	399:5 414:4	

# [signature - situations]

signature 528:22	351:4,5,9,13,18,25	408:22,25 409:12	465:21 466:18
529:13 530:14	352:7,15 353:23	409:18 410:10,19	467:10,14,18,22
<b>signed</b> 367:3	354:8,22 356:11	411:1,19,24	468:1,18 469:4,12
368:22 370:2	357:7,16 359:14	412:21,24 413:3,7	469:18,22 470:3,5
405:2,19 531:13	359:19 360:4,11	413:10,14,17,21	471:19 472:9,15
532:18	360:18,20,24	414:8,12,18,25	473:15 474:7,21
significance	361:17 362:8,23	415:7 416:10	474:25 475:9,15
521:24 522:16,18	363:4,9,17,23,25	417:10,18 418:8	475:21,24 476:4
significant 412:16	364:3,14,18,22	418:13,22 419:2,6	476:16 477:12,14
416:25 417:10,13	365:9,13,19 366:3	419:17 420:1,21	477:19 478:12,25
417:14 418:5,5,15	366:13,19,22	421:4,11,15,23	479:4,10 481:20
418:15,20,21,23	367:6,10 368:24	422:2,11,17,24	482:15,21 483:1,7
419:1,1,5,13 420:3	369:13,24 370:7	423:5,13,18,25	483:13 484:12,16
420:7,7,13,15,25	371:14,22 372:5	424:5,9,16 425:5	484:25 485:2,5,10
421:2,11 444:10	372:11,13,17,21	425:11,14,17,24	485:15,23 486:3
444:15 445:18	372:25 373:5,10	426:3,5,8,13,17,22	486:14,21 487:2,8
459:13 462:14	373:12,14,17	427:24 428:2,6,17	487:16,21 489:3
489:10 490:8,10	374:3,7,10,24	429:22 430:11	489:13 491:21
492:6 506:6,17	376:3,6,18 377:1,6	431:3,15,18 432:6	492:3,10,23 493:3
509:23 524:2	377:9,18 379:2,5	432:15 433:5,18	493:15 494:6
<b>signing</b> 530:19	379:11,19 381:16	434:9,14,20 435:6	495:1,9,12,15,18
signs 390:17 392:3	381:19 382:2,7,14	435:15,22 436:1,3	495:21,24 496:3,3
396:25 405:11	382:18,23 383:8	436:14 437:5,21	496:16,20 497:5
similar 452:21	383:12,19,23	438:2,6,8,16,24	497:18,22,25
468:13 481:5,8,17	384:6,11 385:17	439:11,23 440:3	498:9,25 499:9,19
<b>simply</b> 392:18	385:20 386:2,14	440:10,19 441:9	500:12,18 501:1
394:14 432:24	386:24 387:6,18	441:14,19 443:4,9	501:12,13,21
453:13 470:14	388:9,17 390:21	444:8,23 446:6,16	502:3,8,13,22
489:17	390:25 391:4,8,12	447:2,8 448:6,10	503:13,23 504:5
simultaneous	391:19,24 392:4,6	448:14,18 449:1	504:15,21 505:3,7
375:12 480:3	392:11,16,20,24	449:11 450:21	505:24 508:16,23
519:23	393:4,17 395:6,17	451:3,16,24	509:20 511:4,22
sincerely 530:21	396:11 397:5,10	452:11 453:7,16	525:23 530:10
single 359:23	397:13,18,25	454:1,8,17 455:15	<b>sitting</b> 357:1,5
444:25 465:11	398:11,14,20,25	456:14,21 457:2	359:23 417:25
513:19 514:6	400:3,9,15,20,24	457:19,22 458:5,8	418:13 420:16
522:16,23 525:7	401:3 402:16,20	458:19 459:21	situation 442:5,6
526:2	403:1,19,25 404:9	460:23 461:1,13	463:19 481:7,10
sir 348:18,23	404:20 405:1,8,20	461:17,24 462:19	situations 405:22
349:3,5,9,13,16,22	406:9,10,16	462:22 463:1	459:19 471:6,9
350:4,7,12,16	407:10 408:2,9,17	464:13,16 465:7	499:21

[small - store] Page 36

small 365:20	speak 392:6 404:7	staff 364:7 461:11	385:8 427:8,9,16
smaller 423:12	425:15,20 426:10	492:4 495:14,23	427:19,22 428:10
smallest 422:10	448:7 457:8	496:2	428:19 429:18
smith 388:12,15	460:19	<b>staffing</b> 462:20,23	431:1,9 432:1,14
software 496:17	speaking 380:19	462:25 464:11	432:19 433:1
sold 454:4	special 346:10	stakeholder	439:10 451:19
<b>solely</b> 456:5	390:1 491:7	390:14 391:13,21	457:24 461:3
solutions 348:11	520:20 526:17,19	403:21 502:6,15	462:17 463:20
530:1 533:1	526:20,25	stakeholders	466:15 528:1,7
somebody 399:4	specialmaster.law	390:17 392:17	531:10 532:15
461:11	346:12	393:8,14 394:11	stated 430:1
someone's 389:9	specialty 405:12	394:23 395:5	467:24 476:6
sorry 371:24	specific 352:25	396:24 397:7,12	499:6 519:10
389:2,14,16	355:24 356:4	398:5,9 401:25	statement 480:8
401:13 402:4	373:2 399:11	402:18,20,23	481:17,22,24
407:9 414:12	402:24 410:5,7,22	403:11,17 405:3	531:13,14 532:19
453:24 463:7	411:14 417:1	stamp 498:23	532:19
476:25 483:13	422:22 423:14	499:23 501:7,11	<b>states</b> 343:1
488:2,25 494:10	424:18 429:22	stand 392:13	352:18 354:4
497:22 500:12	441:6 445:4	476:5	355:1 357:21
502:8,10 512:13	447:19 457:16	standard 358:22	358:2 361:18
512:15,22 518:20	465:20 475:21	448:12,14,17	368:12 372:12
520:18 522:9	525:13,20	479:21 481:9	427:12 428:11
524:16 526:23	specifically 352:22	standards 399:20	430:5 436:20
sort 364:1 392:7	355:3,6 356:18	481:5,17	465:14 480:20
<b>sought</b> 434:18	358:20 395:11	start 401:21	502:16
<b>sound</b> 467:9	429:18 430:1,3	started 381:7	status 437:14
sounds 457:21	444:23 448:20	519:2	steering 480:17,18
source 430:23	453:7 464:20	starts 391:22	stenographer
431:2	515:10,12 520:8	484:10	507:18
sources 480:15,16	specifics 481:19	state 343:16	stenographic
481:20 483:2	specify 410:11	347:15,18 352:5	528:4,18 529:15
<b>south</b> 343:16	427:18	352:10,12 357:17	stepping 457:20
344:6 346:3	speculate 420:17	357:20,24 362:21	520:25
376:15 528:14	speculation	363:14 364:11,16	steps 433:21 434:1
<b>spaeder</b> 344:15,19	420:21 451:7	367:13,14 369:1,2	steve 426:5
spangenberg	<b>spoke</b> 460:1	370:15 371:5	stick 355:22
344:9	479:17 492:19	372:7,10 373:2,4	<b>stop</b> 380:19
spanglaw.com	ss 528:1	373:10 374:1	395:14
344:12	st 346:3	376:23 377:3	<b>store</b> 350:18
		379:12,21 381:20	351:22 369:18

[store - system] Page 37

204 16 422 22	251.2	1 3 400 15	252 10 254 12 22
384:16 422:23	substances 351:3	<b>supported</b> 403:16	353:18 354:13,23
423:1,15,22 424:7	352:5,10,18 353:2	403:17	355:21 356:24
424:11,11 425:2	353:6,17 354:18	supporting 449:25	357:13 358:14,23
stores 344:14	355:24 358:6,12	supports 420:13	359:11 360:9,25
386:16 421:24,24	369:6 375:24	supposed 384:1	362:2,16 363:10
422:5,14 423:7,9	385:11 390:19	sure 349:21	364:10,25 365:3,4
424:2,4 426:16	411:18 412:16,19	354:14 359:10	365:17,22 366:1
street 344:16,20	418:23 419:14,16	361:23 365:22	367:7 369:12,25
345:13,17,22	419:22 428:1	370:20 375:15,16	370:24 371:9,19
strength 487:13	429:2 433:24	377:19 386:6	373:24 374:19,20
500:5 501:4,6	452:20 456:1	392:18 401:20	375:8,19 377:2,10
strengths 487:23	465:16 476:25	404:2 423:7	377:13 378:7,11
490:2	477:6 478:16,16	424:24 430:25	378:14,20,22
strike 378:7	480:10 524:11	431:15,20 432:9	379:20 380:19
396:25 411:8	substantiate	433:21 437:14	381:4,12 382:24
423:7 425:7	356:15 415:21	439:12 440:10	384:13 386:8,15
450:15 458:15,16	510:13	442:21 457:17	386:25 388:3,10
460:5 476:5 480:5	subtle 401:7	465:24 476:17	388:19 389:5,11
497:8,10	402:10	477:25 480:14	389:25 390:3,11
stringent 476:15	<b>sue</b> 453:9	482:12,13 498:8	391:14 392:12,21
students 428:21	suggest 381:1	499:17 511:6	393:5 394:8 396:6
428:21	suggesting 517:1	516:10,17 521:9	396:12 397:6,19
study 475:4	suggestion 381:4	521:11	398:1 399:1,22
submit 503:6	suggests 477:6	<b>surge</b> 401:13	400:4,10 401:19
subscribed 531:10	<b>suite</b> 344:11,17,21	surrounding	402:7 403:15
532:14 533:21	345:9,13,23	431:7,24	405:9 406:18
subsequent 412:13	346:11 530:2	survey 427:1,5,8	407:3,11 408:18
419:11	<b>summary</b> 408:23	427:17,25 428:4,7	410:3,13 411:8,11
subset 413:1,23	409:2	428:15,18 429:4	411:20 412:1,12
substance 355:13	superior 530:1	429:13,17,23	414:14,19 415:1
356:13 385:5	supervised 425:18	suspected 383:6	415:12,24 416:6
400:18 401:6	supervisor 379:8	suspicion 405:5	417:3,15 418:9
402:9 404:16	379:17,25	suspicious 351:1	419:3,8,24 421:1,5
406:22 431:6,13	supplemental	351:16 385:24	421:12,16 513:7
431:23 432:12	349:1 467:7 484:1	387:9 414:7 431:7	523:16 524:6
433:10 434:25	494:4	431:24	sworn 343:14
441:13,16,24	<b>supply</b> 417:22	sussane 515:8	528:10 531:10,13
442:25 459:7,16	467:20	sustained 526:17	532:14,18 533:21
460:21 468:11,13	<b>support</b> 387:25	swanson 345:22	<b>system</b> 360:10,16
477:9 493:16	391:2 392:23	347:3 348:15,20	360:18,22 361:2,3
519:13	481:16	348:22 352:16	361:6,11,11,13,23

[system - time] Page 38

362:3,10,13	talked 362:17	terrific 348:25	things 362:18
366:10,11,25	371:18 372:2,6,22	363:18	372:6 381:18
368:2,6 369:14,16	412:23 430:10,10	test 414:5 486:7,8	393:13,14 394:7
369:20 370:18	449:21 467:15	tested 445:16	399:19 466:10
371:8,8 411:23	471:5	testified 380:23	494:7 510:22
412:18 419:15,22	<b>talking</b> 368:14	475:11 493:4,12	521:4
420:5 440:1,6,16	387:1 406:12	495:25 508:16	think 356:11
440:22 456:12	440:19 473:10	516:1 518:2 524:1	364:15,24 375:4,4
497:1,4,14,16,18	499:4 505:3	525:3	380:11,17 381:3
499:8 522:21	516:18	<b>testify</b> 475:15	389:7 395:9 399:5
<b>systems</b> 350:18	talks 353:7 367:20	testifying 356:5	421:13 422:2,8
351:21 356:7	367:21,22 430:6	473:24 526:12	430:17 438:15
365:11 366:5,6,13	464:5	testimony 354:15	462:13 464:13
366:16,21,24	tara 345:9 347:8	355:10 356:3	471:5 475:11
367:25 371:1,7,13	512:1 513:2	358:7 361:13	488:23 489:8
409:15,17,22	520:25	380:17 384:5	491:5 498:25
410:5 412:9	task 459:11	400:7 415:19	499:6 500:1
436:20 440:19,21	462:16	419:18 474:3	501:19 502:18
441:5 497:13,19	team 364:1 366:24	485:21 491:23	503:19 504:18
497:24 498:5,6,8	tech 498:12	507:9 511:12	505:19 506:4,22
f	technician 498:19	522:23 524:7	510:25 518:13
table 364:19 484:5	technology 366:8	528:21 531:6,7	521:4 527:7,10
	369:7	532:6,9,12	third 364:20
tagged 416:23 take 365:15 378:1	tell 352:17 389:12	tests 432:8	396:18 405:13
378:4,16 384:8,22	408:4,4 414:9	text 494:23	thirty 530:18
389:15 390:2	417:4,16,17 418:1	tfumerton 345:11	<b>thought</b> 368:14
402:24 435:2	457:8 459:4	thank 348:18,24	386:4 396:7
	461:14 471:21	349:17 365:3,25	403:25 407:22
441:12,16,23 442:6,9 506:24	488:17 508:12	367:12 371:22,23	418:14 447:24
taken 343:16	528:11	401:23 421:15,16	514:11 522:3
348:5 357:15	telling 379:22	431:18 457:19	thousand 416:21
376:9 390:6	tells 388:11 503:18	466:17,18 491:22	504:1 505:7
401:16 426:19	503:20,24	513:3,3 522:8	three 343:7 352:21
459:11 462:16	ten 498:4 519:6	527:6	360:18,22 365:6
466:23 491:14	520:2 521:7	thanks 360:4	422:9,18 487:11
496:9 497:13	tenets 464:21	365:22 374:19	487:20 500:24
512:5 521:18	term 420:8,8,15	512:10	501:3,5 522:6
524:22 528:13,17	421:4	therapies 471:11	<b>tight</b> 389:2
takes 459:16	termed 402:18	therapy 455:4	time 348:2 360:15
talk 369:15 390:16	terms 369:7	470:11,11 471:3,7	365:15 367:10
430:7 476:18		471:7,12	373:21 376:19
730.7 770.10			

[time - unduly] Page 39

377:8,11 378:17	top 487:4 494:9	528:20	type 385:7 427:23
380:8 389:2	topic 382:5	trumbull 420:11	types 405:10,22
421:13 425:25	topics 372:14	421:22 422:13,15	typewriters 498:8
433:2,18 435:11	total 357:16	423:1,10,16,23	typewriting
440:9,13 442:4	417:11 441:3	424:3,8 425:2,10	528:19
448:25 450:24	472:1 486:14	425:22 434:17	typewritten
452:13 459:20	totals 417:22	439:22 442:24	528:20
460:5,7,12,12	track 343:7 530:6	443:14 444:12,18	u
462:9,19 463:3,4	531:3 532:3	444:25 445:20,23	<b>u.s.</b> 348:7
463:11,11 464:2	train 350:25	446:14 448:3,7,21	ultimate 364:8
465:8 473:25	trained 431:5,22	450:5,17 451:10	unaware 475:19
476:18 484:19,24	433:22	453:24 454:4	understand
491:7 498:7,11,21	<b>training</b> 434:6,7	462:21,24 464:10	351:19 356:8
498:23 499:23	442:13 443:6	464:13 466:7	358:24 377:15
500:5,6 501:6,11	transacted 497:18	526:2	378:8,8 394:4
512:9 514:21	transaction	trust 387:8	396:20 398:10
518:17,21,23	497:21 499:4	truth 528:11,11,12	414:12 419:18
519:2 520:1,10,15	transacts 499:1	try 349:25 362:25	423:4 424:22
520:16,17,25	transcribed 531:7	364:17 376:23	429:14 431:16
521:7	transcript 348:16	394:24	436:13 437:12
times 356:22	521:1 528:20	<b>trying</b> 389:8	442:9 448:14
357:10 370:6	530:11,12 531:5	484:12 493:16	455:19 464:17
458:21	531:12 532:5,11	505:16 522:4	479:15 488:2
title 363:19	532:17	turn 353:24 354:1	499:3,6 504:6
tn 344:14	traveled 413:19	366:18 376:7	509:19 511:1
today 348:12	526:15	397:21 408:20	517:13 522:4
349:8 357:1,5	traveling 404:13	413:11 419:9	understanding
359:8,23 378:2	404:23	502:5	356:11 393:11
390:8 417:24,25	travels 399:3	turns 378:1	407:9 433:6
418:14 420:16	tremendous	two 352:21 353:16	435:11,23 442:17
466:25 520:11	375:21	357:4 362:8	447:8 449:5,6
today's 405:12	trends 409:8	404:23 416:20,21	453:17 457:17
told 381:20 503:9	trial 525:25	417:23 422:19	492:24 495:9
ton 503:25	triggered 351:24	444:10,14 445:11	513:22 514:11
tool 393:1 410:22	<b>trinity</b> 486:16	446:3,21 467:15	516:24 517:25
410:23 411:14	<b>trouble</b> 442:16	467:21 470:2,10	understood
<b>tools</b> 361:24 368:9	<b>true</b> 357:6 360:2	471:2 472:5	406:17 493:5
387:25 388:24	372:20 377:4	484:23 494:1	495:2,7,11 513:10
409:5 410:10,12	391:10 418:3	495:24 510:25	514:20
410:14 412:15	434:12 440:5	521:14	unduly 459:17
419:12	457:1 464:8		411441y 107.11

#### [unexplainable - warrants]

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unexplainable	utilizing 369:9	446:12 449:2	485:25 494:9,14
404:13	409:7	450:3,15,16 455:9	502:11
unit 348:3	<b>utmost</b> 356:18	456:4,15,23	walmart 345:8
<b>united</b> 343:1 358:2	V	460:20 478:18	439:5 486:1 494:9
361:18	v 530:6	525:9	494:15 502:11
<b>unknown</b> 470:12	vaccine 361:5	viewed 403:3	513:10,17,24
unlimited 519:5	valid 519:15	views 466:10	514:4,12,21 515:1
unquote 376:11	valuable 482:1	violated 356:6	515:11 516:2,25
467:24 477:15	variety 366:6	439:6	517:1 518:7
unreasonably	various 392:17	violates 519:19	519:14
404:14	458:21 460:3	violating 380:10	<b>walmart's</b> 514:14
unresolved 443:18	516:2 517:20	438:12	515:7 518:9
444:4	vary 422:9 423:2,5	violation 358:6	519:10,12
updated 428:17	424:10,13 442:4	virginia 376:15	want 354:14,24
updates 429:11	verbal 459:23	virtual 371:11	355:22 356:2,3
upsetting 395:24	492:3	visit 413:19 503:4	375:13 377:25
urge 520:24	verbally 494:2	526:15	378:15,23 380:24
use 351:7,11,15,21	verify 469:4	visited 452:18	390:16 391:16
352:18 354:5,16	veritext 348:10,12	volkman 430:8	397:20 401:1
355:1 357:3,18	530:1,7 533:1	433:14	409:1 410:4
368:18 369:16	veritext.com.	<b>volume</b> 343:10	413:11,15 419:9
381:9 386:20	530:17	348:4	421:6 430:12
388:5,14 410:7	versus 417:21	w	451:4 457:16
453:2 467:25	419:1 425:1	w 344:16	473:24 484:11
468:4 481:8 485:1	video 343:9 348:4	wacker 345:9	485:12,17 491:18
useful 489:13,20	389:12	wag 363:2,2,3	502:14 514:21
uses 358:16 359:2	videographer	373:16 389:3	516:17 519:3
359:24 360:6	346:6 348:1,11	wag19-1-9 362:25	521:11,12 527:2,3
362:10 367:1	390:4,7 401:14,17	wait 378:13	<b>wanted</b> 396:13
utilization 367:21	466:21,24 491:12	waived 530:19	398:5,9 400:13
367:22 369:10,14	491:15 496:7,10	walgreen 345:20	485:3 487:9 492:2
370:8,9 394:20	512:3,6 521:16,19	345:20	wants 428:23
438:4 477:7	524:20,23 527:11	walgreens 345:20	432:17
utilize 350:23	view 357:3 366:11	382:8,10,15,19,20	warning 390:17
361:10 370:18	371:5 376:20	383:9 384:18	392:3 396:25
399:13	377:3 379:13	385:15,21 386:3	405:11 518:7
utilized 366:8	382:19 386:9	394:21,22 395:4,7	warrant 405:4
369:4 371:2	388:13 397:1	395:10,20 396:8	warranted 477:7
465:15 480:22	404:21,21 416:24	396:13 403:6	508:21
481:11	417:5 419:18	411:3 413:22	warrants 401:10
	437:23 439:4	420:18 439:5	402:13
	TJ 1.43 TJ 7.7	T40.10 TJ7.J	

#### [washington - zwier]

	421 15 466 10	475.22	.1
washington 344:21	421:15 466:18 478:2 512:8	475:22 written 372:2	zuckerman.com
			344:18,22
watch 520:24	524:15,16 529:7	383:15 388:12	zwier 345:4,6
way 352:20 359:16	530:11 531:1,4,11	395:19 414:21	
366:17 368:7	532:1,4,15	416:9,15 417:7	
396:4 414:22	witnesses 458:12	418:2,12 429:10	
416:1 417:9	witness' 530:14	444:16 467:21	
459:22 461:24	wolf 344:4	470:2 472:16	
470:13,17,21	wondering 368:20	478:17 487:13	
471:1 487:5 507:5	469:6	490:24 491:2,2	
515:17 521:10	word 378:25	wrong 378:5	
523:14	407:23	382:20	
ways 410:7	work 350:25	wrote 381:1,2,5	
we've 352:3	360:10 425:22	414:10,15 431:21	
401:12 412:22	426:12 435:17	469:24 470:4	
482:18 507:12	441:21 445:21	477:13	
webinar 427:14	446:24 468:22	X	
wednesday 343:17	475:8 497:24	x 396:2	
528:15	workbook 427:14		
week 436:8	worked 359:12,16	y 1 274 12 460 6	
weeks 360:18,22	360:5 425:16	yeah 374:13 469:6	
weinberger	426:20 434:16	520:8	
344:10	442:23 493:7	year 480:20	
went 381:14	496:13,14,17	years 353:9	
392:22 404:6	515:18	359:12 498:4	
441:4 498:7	working 359:17	yesterday 349:11	
west 345:9	361:3 441:22	353:25 354:8	
wewatta 345:22	469:8,15 470:6	362:17 364:15	
whereof 529:7	492:14	372:6,22 377:20	
whichever 365:18	workings 439:10	383:24 467:11	
white 459:12	works 436:7	471:5 475:17,17	
willfully 443:19	worry 349:25	476:9 479:20,22	
444:3	write 350:17 351:4	480:4 483:5	
willingly 443:22	352:2 362:19	492:17 494:1	
winsley 433:13,17	372:14,18 403:2	507:14	
wisconsin 518:6	450:22 451:4	Z	
<b>witness</b> 343:14	<b>writing</b> 380:16	<b>zero</b> 381:4	
355:25 365:25	383:4 385:1	zinmaster 511:25	
378:19 380:20,23	386:22 416:12	zuckerman 344:15	
380:23 389:7,18	450:24 459:4,22	344:19	
389:20 401:12	470:10 474:11	-	

# Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 30

- (e) Review By the Witness; Changes.
- (1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:
- (A) to review the transcript or recording; and
- (B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.
- (2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

DISCLAIMER: THE FOREGOING FEDERAL PROCEDURE RULES

ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,

2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL RULES

OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

# VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS COMPANY CERTIFICATE AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Veritext Legal Solutions represents that the foregoing transcript is a true, correct and complete transcript of the colloquies, questions and answers as submitted by the court reporter. Veritext Legal Solutions further represents that the attached exhibits, if any, are true, correct and complete documents as submitted by the court reporter and/or attorneys in relation to this deposition and that the documents were processed in accordance with our litigation support and production standards.

Veritext Legal Solutions is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of client and witness information, in accordance with the regulations promulgated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as amended with respect to protected health information and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, as amended, with respect to Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Physical transcripts and exhibits are managed under strict facility and personnel access controls. Electronic files of documents are stored in encrypted form and are transmitted in an encrypted fashion to authenticated parties who are permitted to access the material. Our data is hosted in a Tier 4 SSAE 16 certified facility.

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